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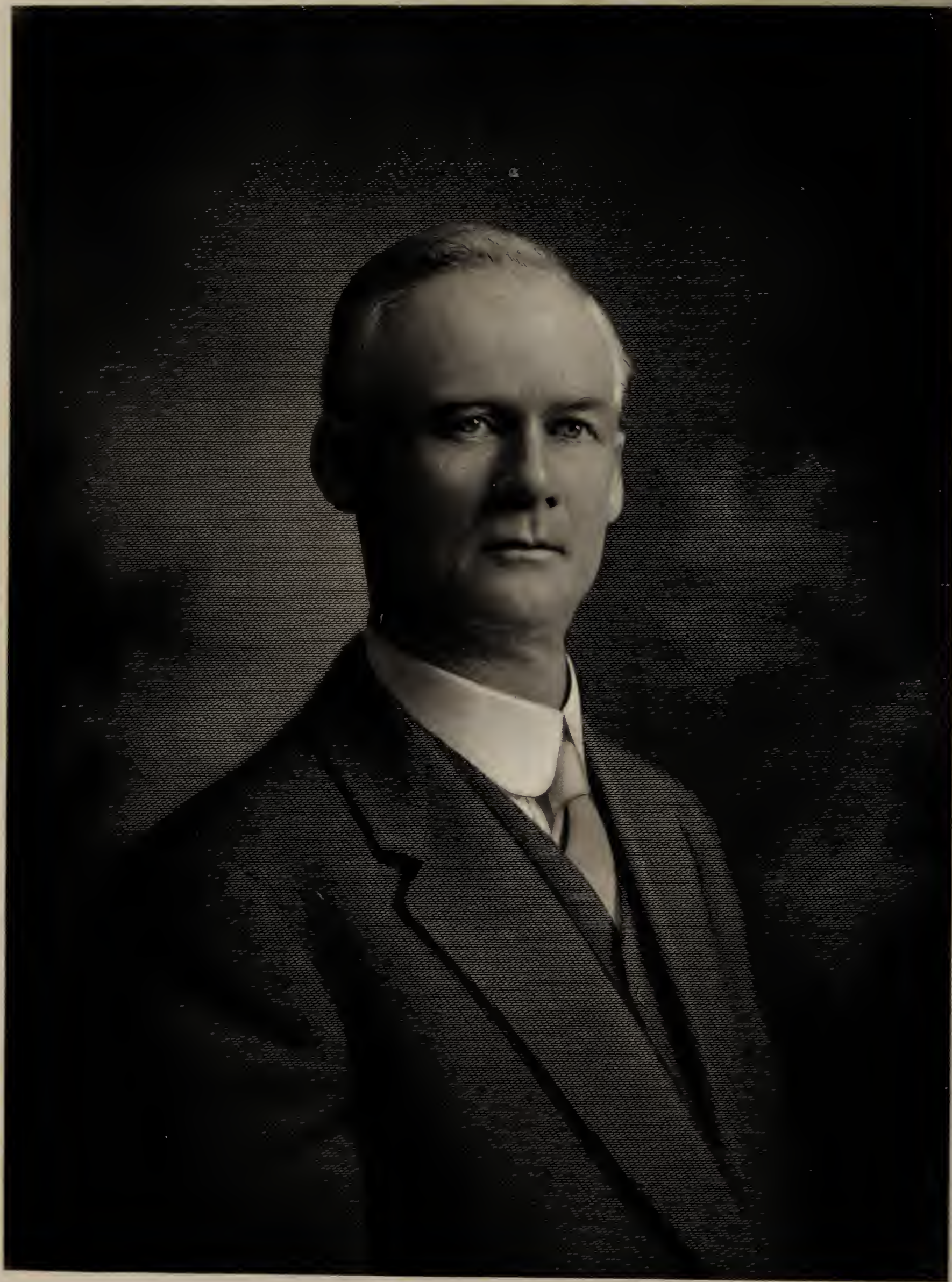
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E. L. Sylvester



HISTORY OF  
WABASHA COUNTY  
MINNESOTA

COMPILED BY  
FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE  
AND OTHERS

---

*ILLUSTRATED*

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WINONA, MINN.  
H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.

1920





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## FOREWORD

The aim of this work is to present in available form the facts which the average citizen desires to know about those events of the past that have been so important in making the county what it is today. To the recital of these events have been added the biographies of former and present citizens, giving a closer insight into the lives and work of the prominent actors in the events here depicted.

No two editors would select the same material for a county history; opinions as to what such a work should consist of are varied. But we believe that we have selected such material as will prove of the greatest value and the greatest interest to the greatest number of people.

In compiling this material the publishers have drawn freely upon the History of Wabasha County, published by H. H. Hill & Co. in 1884. Gathered nearly forty years ago, there is much information therein that is not to be obtained elsewhere at the present day. Other sources of information have been the local records of the county, villages, towns, churches and organizations, the publications of the state and of the Minnesota Historical Society; the files of the Wabasha County newspapers, and the contributions of individuals, both men and women who, through official position, or otherwise, were peculiarly well qualified to furnish the information desired. To all these, to the county officers, the members of the press, the pastors of churches, and others who have aided in the work, the publishers and editor, as well as the citizens of the county, now and in future years, owe a debt of gratitude.

That the history is faultless we do not presume. It is probably not within the power of man to arrange a work of this kind without mistakes of one sort or another. But we believe that the merits and value of such a work overbalance whatever shortcomings it may have, and we feel assured that it will increase in value with the passing of the years.

H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.

Winona, Minn., Nov. 1, 1920.



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## CHAPTER I.

### GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.

Wabasha County is in southeastern Minnesota, forty-two miles from the Iowa border. It is crossed by the meridian of 92 degrees, West Longitude, and is about midway between the parallels of 44 and 45 degrees, North Latitude. in the Congressional survey it occupies Township 108, North, Ranges 11 and 12, West; fractional Township 109, Range 9, and Township 109, Ranges 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14; fractional Township 110, Range 9, fractional Township 110, Range 10, and Township 110, Ranges 11, 12, 13 and 14; fractional Township 111, Range 10, fractional Township 111, Range 11, fractional Township 111, Range 12, and Township 111, Range 13. The Second Standard Parallel and the First Guide Meridian cross at the northeast corner of Township 108, Range 11, and consequently Township 108, Range 11 and Township 108, Range 12, are some half mile further west than their respective adjoining townships on the north. The county is separated on the northeast from Buffalo and Pepin Counties in Wisconsin, by the Mississippi River and its enlargement, Lake Pepin. Goodhue County, Minnesota, is on the north and west, Olmsted County, Minnesota, on the south and west, and Winona County, Minnesota, on the south and east.

The area of the county is 380,562.24 acres, of which 25,018.07 is water. There are no natural lakes within the county, except the lakes, lagoons and enlarged sloughs lying in the flood plain of the Mississippi, near the debouchure of the Zumbro. The beautiful lake at Mazeppa is artificial. The water surface of 25,018.07 acres as here indicated consists of the meandered area of the Zumbro River, and that part of the Mississippi and Lake Pepin, and their auxiliary waters, lying west of the "middle of the main channel."

Politically the county is divided into seventeen organized townships named, respectively, Chester, Mazeppa, Mount Pleasant, Gillford, Hyde Park, Zumbro, Lake, West Albany, Oakwood, Elgin, Pepin, Glasgow, Highland, Plainview, Greenfield, Watopa and Minneiska. There are two cities, Wabasha, the county seat, and Lake City. The villages are Plainview, Elgin, Minneiska, Weaver, Millville, Hammond, Zumbro Falls, Mazeppa, Kellogg, Theilman and Reed's Landing. Other railroad points are Brights Station, Jarretts, Keegan, Lakey (Tracy), McCracken, Dumfries, Midland Junction and Camp Lakeview. Small community centers are Smithfield, Conception, Bremen Corners, South Troy, Belle Chester, Bear Valley, Oak Center, Jacksonville, West Albany and King's Cooley.

The county is almost exclusively an agricultural one, there being practically no manufacturing except of butter and flour, and the cities and villages being almost entirely dependent upon the rural districts for their support and maintenance.

The original settlement was made by fur traders who found here a location convenient to the Wabasha band of Dakota at Winona. French trading posts in this vicinity date back to 1685. Trading posts were established within the actual present limits of the county early in the nineteenth century and mercantile business has been continuous within the county since 1834. The settlement at the various Mississippi points within the county was brought about by the excellent steamboat landings, and increased by the building of the railroad parallel to the river in the early seventies. The agricultural settlement in the fifties resulted from the possibilities of the rich farming lands then open to settlement, and their accessibility to the steamboat landings.



This settlement was retarded and confused somewhat, however, by the fact that much of the county lay within the limits of the Half Breed Tract, so called, the status of which as to settlement was in considerable doubt for many years. Another drawback was the difficulty of obtaining water in the prairie regions. In common with all this part of Minnesota, the county lost some of its settlers as the result of the financial panic of 1857 and the succeeding hard winter of 1857-58, and as the result of wheat failure of 1878. The prairie villages owe their establishment to their position on early routes of overland travel, and their availability to good reaches of farming country. In the Zumbro Valley the villages were started as stopping places on river fords, and developed as ferries were established and bridges were constructed. The opening of the Eyota and the Midland Railroad branches in the late seventies gave an impetus to the inland villages along their routes, and increased the importance of farming by furnishing better transportation, though this was coincident with the decline of the wheat crop. A few villages were arbitrarily established by the railroad as convenient shipping points, in places where no previous village had existed, and in at least three cases the railroad resulted in the moving for a short distance of previously established hamlets. While the water power of the county has been important, and resulted in the building of quite a number of mills in the early days, and may have had something to do with the selection of the site of Elgin, it has been a vital predominant factor in but one of the important villages, Mazeppa. There the village site was selected on account of its water power, and in the late seventies and eighties the milling activity was the central industry.

The River Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company enters the county at Lake City, follows closely the shores of Lake and Pepin Townships, leaves the river at Wabasha, follows the foot of the bluffs through Greenfield, Watopa and Minneiska Townships, and leaves the county on the river bank at Minneiska Village. The Midland Division of this road, with its eastern terminus at Wabasha, uses the main line from Wabasha through Greenfield Township, and at Midland Junction in that township leaves the main line, and follows the Zumbro Valley through Greenfield, Glasgow, West Albany, Oakwood, Hyde Park, a corner of Chester, and Mazeppa, leaving the county at Mazeppa Village and from there extending westward to Faribault. The Chippewa Valley Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul extends from Wabasha to Reed's Landing, there crosses the Mississippi, and extends up the Chippewa Valley. The Eyota Division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co. extends from Plainview in a southwestern direction through Plainview and Elgin Townships, and joins the main line at Eyota in Olmsted County.

The River Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway was completed through Wabasha County in 1871. The Minnesota & Pacific Railroad Company was one of the original land grant roads, under the act of May 22, 1857. Among various other routes, it was empowered to construct a line from Winona, up the valley of the Mississippi, to St. Paul. Under the "Five Million Dollar Loan" act, the company graded sixty-two miles, and received \$600,000 in bonds. The name of the incorporation was changed to the St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Company, and as such the company built the first railroad in the state, the first locomotive with a train of cars leaving St. Paul for St. Anthony (Minneapolis) in June, 1862.

By an act of the legislature approved March 2, 1867, the directors were authorized to change the name of the company or that of any of the branches of the road provided for in their charter. Accordingly, on March 19, 1867, the board of directors gave the name of the Chicago & St. Paul Railway to that part of their line which was to extend from St. Paul to Winona and southward. The line, however, between St. Paul and Winona was long called the Winona & St. Paul. Work was begun upon this line at or near St. Paul in 1865, but nothing was done in Wabasha county until 1870, when a line was put in opera-



tion from Minnesota City, on the line of the Winona & St. Peter to Weaver in Wabasha County. The next year the line was completed from St. Peter Junction (now known as Winona Junction, on the upper outskirts of Winona) to St. Paul. The last rail was laid August 15, 1871, two miles above Weaver, thus connecting Winona with St. Paul through Wabasha County. The first regular passenger train between the two cities through Wabash County left Winona at 10:30, Thursday, September 7, 1871. The bridge at Hastings was not completed at that time, and passengers and freight were ferried across the river at that point. The bridge at Hastings was opened December 11, 1871, and put in operation, thus establishing through railroad connection between Winona, through Winona County, to St. Paul. In December, 1871, the road was sold to the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company. This company on February 7, 1874, became the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. January 16, 1872, when the bridge at Winona was completed (the former bridge at that place having been built December 29, 1870 and fallen May 26, 1871), through communication was established with the east, over the line of the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott. In 1872 the road was extended from St. Peter Junction, on the outskirts of Winona, to La Crescent, down the west side of the Mississippi river, and thereafter all freight trains used this route, being ferried across the Mississippi river to La Crosse. Passenger trains, however, continued to run over the Winona bridge and the North-Western lines until 1875, when the magnificent iron bridge between La Crescent and North La Crosse was completed and brought into use for all traffic over the Milwaukee & St. Paul line.

The Midland Division of this road was started up the Zumbro Valley in 1877, but the money gave out before many miles had been built. The Mazeppa Milling Co. then took up the matter, and completed the road to Zumbrota with the backing of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company.

That same year the Rochester & Northwestern (now the Northwestern) ran a branch from Rochester to Zumbrota. Both lines reached Zumbrota at the same time and both claimed a right of way at the foot of Main street in that village. Early residents of the western part of Wabasha County tell of a pitched battle between the two track laying crews to see who would get possession of the disputed ground. The Midland Division was operated as a narrow gauge until June 7, 1903, during which year it was extended through to Faribault and on November 9, 1903, the first standard gauge train passed over the roadbed through Wabasha County.

The Eyota Branch of the Chicago & Northwestern was completed in 1878. This gave the people of the southern part of the county direct connection through the Northwestern with the great trunk lines of the East and West.

The Chippewa Valley Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul was put in operation from Wabasha in 1882. The Chippewa Valley & Superior Railway Company, which originated the project, was projected in 1881, and the construction of the line started. The road was opened for traffic in 1882, and on Nov. 15, of that year, was transferred to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.

The surface of Wabasha County forms a relatively level plateau, cut by deep stream valleys. This plateau has an elevation varying from 1,100 feet above the sea along the northern boundary of the county to 1,150 in the western portion, and 1,200 in the south and east, where it is approximately 525 feet above the Mississippi. It is cut in two parts near the center of the county by the valley of the Zumbro, which in its lower portion is 500 feet below the upland surface. The southern and southeastern part of the county is cut by the Whitewater Valley. The eastern edge of the county is further cut by numerous tributaries of the Mississippi, which extend back only a few miles from the river. The valleys of these tributaries, as well as that of the Zumbro are sharp and canyon-like. The lower part of the Zumbro Valley is one to two miles in width and is marked by terraces.



The surface waters all reach the Mississippi River, which, as noted, lies from 425 to 525 feet lower than the general upland surface of the county. The greater part of these waters gather first into the Zumbro River, which meanders in a broadly serpentine course eastward to the Mississippi, crossing the entire county. The main affluents of the Zumbro are from the south, being the south branch of Zumbro River, Long Creek, Middle Creek, West Indian Creek, Dady's Creek, and Indian Creek. From the north the Zumbro receives Skillman Brook (Trout Creek) and West Albany Creek. These streams all flow with considerable descent and rather uniform volume of water, but in the early summer are subject to sudden floods from heavy rain showers. These floods are the more likely to be sudden and disastrous since the valleys of the streams are deep and rock-bound gorges, gathering the surface waters, which cannot anywhere be detained on the uplands, owing to the absence of lakes and marshes, and the easy slopes which allow them to run off at once.

The valley itself, as stated, is from one to two miles wide, between rock bluffs, and the stream overflows a wide margin on both sides. When the river reaches the low lands near Kellogg, some two or three miles from the nearest point in the main channel of the Mississippi, it spreads out and finds its way into the Mississippi through various channels. To reclaim a portion of this overflow land, a county ditch has been built from near Kellogg to a point in the Mississippi almost opposite Alma, Wisconsin. The main channel of the river originally flowed east and south from Kellogg and mouthed a mile and a half or two miles above Minneiska. This channel about a mile before reaching the Mississippi had a branch running south connecting it with the Whitewater which mouths at Minneiska. In high water the waters of the Mississippi and Zumbro were backed into this branch, and thus the main waters of the Zumbro at times reached the Mississippi through the mouth of the Whitewater, causing the early explorers to believe that the two rivers had but one mouth. The old mouth of the Zumbro above Minneiska still furnishes an outlet for Indian Creek and other small streams, and in high water, the waters of these streams may still be flowing through the branch mentioned into the Whitewater.

The small lakes, sloughs and lagoons, already mentioned as lying in the flood plain of the Mississippi, are composed of the waters of either the Zumbro or the Mississippi.

The North Whitewater flows through the southern part of Elgin and Plainview Townships, and the Whitewater itself, in finding its way to its mouth at Minneiska, flows through the southern part of Minneiska Township.

Wabasha county possesses as good facilities for manufacturing pursuits as any county in Minnesota.

The two middle forks of the Zumbro unite in the township of Oronoco, in Olmsted county, forming one rapid stream, which winds its way for a distance of two miles and unites with the waters of the south branch, which it carries onward about two miles farther, and enters Wabasha county in the town of Mazeppa. The north branch also enters the county at this point, and flows a distance of about four miles, and discharges its waters in the main Zumbro very near the center of the town. From Mazeppa it finds its way eastward, forming the boundary line between Zumbro and Hyde Park, crossing the northwest corner of Oakwood and the southeast corner of West Albany, traversing the towns of Glasgow and Greenfield, and enters the Mississippi, receiving on its way tributary waters from smaller streams.

The most important water power in southeastern Minnesota is utilized not far from Mazeppa, where a dam built on the south branch of the Zumbro furnishes electrical power for the city of Rochester. The water power at Mazeppa itself furnishes that village with municipal power for its electric lights and waterworks, and is used also in grinding feed. At Jarrett's the waterpower is used for a mill. There are also a few other mills in the county.

In the eighties, when the use of waterpower in the county reached its zenith, the following report was made of conditions at that time:



"On Section 19, Chester, Skillman Bros.; small mill, with 11-foot head (dam), on Trout brook, often known as Skillman brook.

"On Section 31, Gillford, is the Cold Spring mill; the head of water is eight feet, formed by a dam in a small creek, owned by M. S. Hostetter, two run of stone (one for feed). This mill takes its name from a large spring of very cold water which issues from the bluff a short distance below the dam.

"At Mazeppa, the Mazeppa mill company own a mill which is situated on the Zumbro river, and has a water head of 18 feet. It is a roller mill and, by the use of steam, when the water is low, has a capacity of 650 barrels per day.

"Jarrett's mill is at Jarrett's ford, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 23, Hyde Park, on the north side of the Zumbro river. It is a custom mill with three run of stone (one for feed), twelve feet head of water, and is operated by a race-way from the river; owned by Mr. Owen.

"On the West Albany creek are John Hoffman's mill, with two run of stone for custom work, and E. Brandt's mill with two run of stone for custom work.

"At Millville a fine water power is available. A seven foot dam would give a fall of fourteen feet, capable of running twenty-four run of stone.

"Another good power exists at Zumbro Falls, where was formerly a mill.

"On Indian creek, Watopa, is a small mill owned by John Hitchcock. It has about twelve horse-power, with a fall of ten feet; two run of stone for flour, one being an "automatic mill" for grinding middlings; of Knowlton and Deane, Logansport, Ind.; one Leffel wheel.

"On Dady's creek, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 34, Greenfield, is Mark Hitchcock's mill. This has a turbine wheel of eighteen inches, but cannot run constantly; one run of stone; twelve horse-power.

"On West Indian creek, Sec. 16, Highland, S. Appel owns a flouring mill with two run of stone, of which one is for feed. It has a turbine wheel, with twelve feet head of water. Another good power is two miles below Appel's mill, where formerly was a mill. This is in the west part of Sec. 5, Highland."

Wabasha County, particularly in the eastern half, participates in the general character of surface that is typical of the general area of this vicinity. The valleys are deep and rock-bound, though the ruggedness of rocky bluffs is alleviated by the heavy covering of loam with which the whole country is mantled. The valley of the Zumbro is one of the chief elements in the topography of the county. This valley is so wide and so deep that it suggests a theory of erosion and a force of water once operating in it which have no adequate proportion to the small stream that now occupies it. The streams that now discharge into it add material to the flood plain of the main valley, while the Zumbro itself seems to be unable to carry away the detritus they bring into it. The valley is therefore apparently being filled rather than excavated. Along the immediate river banks, within the general margin of the rock bluffs, is a belt of alluvial flat land which lies about 400 feet below the upland plateaus north and south. This alluvial flat is sometimes two miles wide, and in the lower part of the valley is terraced by successive flats higher and higher above the river, the highest being at Kellogg, sixty-five above the depot, or 767 feet above the sea.

These upland plateaus are undulating, or rolling, their roughness increasing with proximity to the little water-courses. These smooth undulations are due partly to the changes of the strata of the underlying rocks, partly to the incomplete filling up of pre-existing rock-gorges by the deposit of the loam, or the drift, and partly to the effect of drainage and re-excavation since the deposit of the loam. Nowhere are these irregularities of upland surface so disposed, at this time, as to enclose lakes. If such lakes were ever so produced in Wabasha County, they have been drained by the wearing down of their original outlets. The nature of the contours, however, warrants the belief that Wabasha County uplands were never diversified by lakes, but the surface on



which the loam was deposited was one that had been for many ages sufficiently eroded by drainage to prevent the accumulation of standing waters; the loam itself accommodating itself to the original contour, and on being brought finally to constitute the surface of the county, taking the same, or nearly the same, plan of drainage.

Lake Pepin, which borders Wabasha County, lies in the gorge of the Mississippi River, of which it is an enlargement. It extends from the mouth of Chippewa River, northward nearly twenty-two miles. It is from one to two and a half miles wide, and covers about thirty-eight and a half square miles. The maximum depth of the lake is fifty-six feet, but most of it is twenty to thirty-five feet deep. The cause of this lake is the delta of the Chippewa River, which is covered with modern flood plain deposits. The Chippewa, flowing at a steeper grade than the Mississippi, has deposited more and coarser debris than the Mississippi could remove. This material has formed a sort of natural dam, which has filled the great gorge above with water, thus forming the lake. The depth of Lake Pepin makes it apparent that the gorge has been filled with the main stream to a depth of at least thirty to fifty feet since the dam was laid down. The delta at the head of the lake, formed by the deposits brought down by the Mississippi itself, and not carried away, is still growing, thus forcing the head of the lake further south. The lake must have originally extended much further upstream toward Prescott. Certainly the head of the lake was not long ago at least five miles further upstream at Hagar, Wis., and Red Wing, Minn. The Dakota Indians are said to have traditions regarding this. Below Red Wing three large and several small lakes lie between the distributory channels of the lake. The water in the northwestern end of Lake Pepin has been shoaled to less than half the depth it must have had originally, indicating the process by which the lake will be eventually filled up and obliterated. It has been stated that Lake Pepin had varied notably in level within historic times. This is upon the basis of stumps of trees in the channel of the Mississippi at Red Wing, Minn., though it is possible that these stumps indicate only the changing of the channel. It is thought that the French explorers found the main Chippewa flowing into what is now Beef Slough, which empties into the Beef River above Alma. The change from this channel to the present channel would cause the level of the lake to rise somewhat.

The shores of Lake Pepin are partly the high rock bluffs of the Mississippi gorge, partly the Mississippi terraces, and partly the very low modern deposits made by streams and waves. The larger stream deposits are the deltas of the Mississippi and Chippewa, at the head and foot of the lake, respectively, and the smaller deltas of Rush River near Maiden Rock and Isabell Creek at Bay City. Other notable features of the low shore lines are the spits, made by waves and currents. Pairs of these spits converge in V-shaped points or cusps, enclosing triangular swampy areas. There are cusps at Stockholm and Maiden Rock on the Wisconsin shore, and even better ones at the Point au Sable, Central Point and Lake City cusps on the Minnesota shore.

The Zumbro River by piling up the material which it has through countless ages brought down from the upper Zumbro Valley, has doubtless assisted in the creation of Lake Pepin, by fretting the Mississippi currents, and thus depriving of an unobstructed outlet the material from the Chippewa which flows from the east several miles above.

Lake Pepin is 664 feet above the sea at average tide-level, and the Mississippi River at the southern boundary of the county is 650 feet, the river falling fourteen feet in the distance of about eighteen miles. The highest land in the county is about 1,200 feet above tide. Such elevation is reached in the western part of Mount Pleasant, and in the southwestern part of Elgin, in each case lying over a small area of the Trenton limestone. There is another area of equal elevation north and northwest of Plainview, extending somewhat into Elgin and Highland townships. It is presumed that this last is produced



by an accumulation of drift-clay, below the loam, rather than by the preservation of any part of the Trenton formation. A tongue from this area extends southeastward into Winona County, in Whitewater Township, and there it is highly improbable that any part of the Trenton exists.

The elevations on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad in Wabasha County, are as follows: Lake City, 705 feet above the sea level; Reed's Landing, 682 feet; Wabasha, 712 feet; Midland Junction, 695 feet; Kellogg, 702 feet; Weaver, 674 feet; Minneiska, 672 feet; Midland Junction, 695 feet; Glasgow, 716.5 feet; McCracken, 732 feet; Theilman, 743 feet; Tracey, 756 feet; Keegan, 759 feet; Millville, 787 feet; Garrett, 792 feet; Hammond, 805 feet; Funk, 820.5 feet; Zumbro Falls, 836 feet; Summit, grade, 895 feet; Depression, grade, 868; Mazeppa, 935; Forest Mills, 970; Summit, grade, 986; Zumbrota, 980.

Mean elevation of Wabasha County. The various townships of the county may be estimated to have the following average elevation above the sea, viz: Mount Pleasant, 1100 feet; Lake, 1000; Pepin, 1050; Wabasha, 740; Chester, 1025; Gillford, 1100; West Albany, 1000; Glasgow, 915; Greenfield, 800; Mazeppa, 950; Zumbro, 1050; Hyde Park, 1025; Oakwood, 985; Highland, 1025; Watopa, 900; Minneiska, 675; Elgin, 1125; Plainview, 1135. If Lake and Wabasha together be taken as the equivalent of one town, with areas proportioned as three to one, and Pepin and Minneiska be considered together equal to another town, each forming one half, the mean elevation of the county will be found to be about 1065 feet.

Where the surface is not broken by too great ruggedness, as it is in proximity to the numerous ravines and along the bluffs of the Zumbro, Whitewater, and the Mississippi, the soil is uniformly good; and even when the roughness is quite unfavorable, or the sides of the hills are quite steep, the soil still is capable of producing all the crops of ordinary agriculture. The loam which spreads over the entire county is strong and fertile in all the qualities of a good soil. It is only in the immediate vicinity of the sandstone bluffs that the soil is too light for reliable farming. In these places the sand is superficial, and has worked down from the bluffs since the deposition of the loam which in many cases is seen to underlie the sandy surface. The loam itself is not sandy, in general, but clayey, and is easily carried in suspension by moving water. Yet in its ordinary condition it is hard to get into suspension. It is impervious. The rains that fall upon it are more effective in disturbing it, and removing it, in the act of falling, than in the erosion that follows. An ordinary sand or gravel would be easily undermined and carried to lower levels by the surface wash that sometimes is poured upon this loam, while the loam can be attacked by erosion only on its very surface. It is so fine and so tenacious that the surface film susceptible of such attack is very thin. If the surface be covered by vegetation the loam is practically immobile under ordinary rains and wash.

The loess loam is the basis of the soils and subsoils of Wabasha County and forms the immediate surface. Sometimes this loam is stratified and fine, yet exhibiting thin laminae of sand. Sometimes in the uplands it seems to graduate into pebbly clay, and this into stony clay, and the stony clay then is the till, which underlies the clay in large areas throughout the county. This structure would result from the decay in situ of the rocks underlying the county; and but little if any of such disturbed, decayed, rock-material can be said to exist in this county. Its substance seems to have been worked over, perhaps several times, by water and by ice, thus reproducing itself with modified features in different localities. Notwithstanding these variations, its usual and characteristic qualities, at the surface, is that of a fine, sticky, impervious, yellowish clay.

There is, as mentioned, a blue, stony clay underlying large areas in Wabasha County, including the most of Chester and Gillford, and the highlands in Mazeppa, Zumbro, Elgin, Plainview and Highland. It is probably more extensive still, running into Lake and West Albany, and even into Pepin, but



its limits cannot be defined with accuracy. It is hid by a canopy of yellow, fine loam. Its former existence over areas that now do not show it, is proven by the occurrence of an occasional foreign boulder in the ravines where every other trace of it has been destroyed. How thick this clay may be is unknown, but it seems to be, in some places, from twenty-five to forty feet. The region between the Clearwater and the Zumbro rivers, however, does not generally have this blue clay, the loam only being found in deep wells, and having an average of about thirty-five feet. The existence of this clay at Plainview was one of the factors that determined the final site of the village. The village was first started two miles further east, under the name of Greenville (in 1855), but as no good wells were found the town was unsuccessful; while at Plainview, the blue clay there present furnished water at about thirty feet and attracted new settlers, and even the residents from Greenville. In this clay is frequently found wood and other vegetation. This, however, was not the only factor in the fall of Greenville and rise of Plainview. Greenville was within the "Half Breed Tract," and the uncertainty of land titles, as well as the difficulty of getting water, kept investors away.

There is a little foreign gravel on the washed surface near the top of the ravine (over the brink of the bed-rock), near the schoolhouse, in Section 28, Pepin.

On the shore of Lake Pepin, at Lake City, are large boulders of gabbro, 3-4 feet across.

Several large boulders are to be seen in Section 18, Gillford, and drift-gravel and stones occasionally everywhere west of that.

A deposit of drift-clay may be seen in the road near Millville.

Drift-clay and gravel can be seen in the southeast corner of Plainview, section 25. One large boulder of gneiss lies in the road on section 35.

There is a large amount of foreign drift, in the form of gravel and boulders, about Mazeppa, sometimes also gravelly clay. It is of the color of the loam and is mixed in the bottom of the loam.

The Zumbro and the Mississippi are bordered by alluvial terraces. These consist, usually, and conspicuously, of gravel of foreign origin, the washings from the frayed edge of the sheet of till that once seems nearly to have covered the whole county.

At Zumbro Falls there is a sandy irregular terrace (15-20 feet) which, near the bottom, shows sand. In the higher bluffs is coarse gravel, mingled with fallen pieces of the limestone strata; the gravel itself also consisting largely of limestone of the same kind.

The village of Millville is on a terrace that rises thirty feet above the depot, or 817 feet above the sea, and forty-eight feet above the river at high water.

At Kellogg the highest terrace, composed of gravel and sand, is that which accompanies the Zumbro, sixty-five feet above the railroad grade, or 767 feet above the sea, and 106 feet above Lake Pepin. This shows a descent, in this terrace level, from Millville to Kellogg, of fifty feet. At Kellogg there is another flat forty feet lower, and this descends irregularly to the plain on which Kellogg is situated. The only permanent terrace here is the uppermost one, the other plains apparently being liable to fluctuation, and to blending, by a gradual descent, with the present flood-plain. The top of this higher terrace here is of gravelly sand with but a slight covering of loess.

Along the Mississippi there is an important terrace-flat, rising from forty-five to fifty feet above the river. Kellogg is situated on it, where it seems to be about fifty feet above the river. Wabasha, likewise on the terrace, is fifty-four feet above the river, and Lake City depot is forty-one.

The alluvium occurs in the valleys of the Mississippi and its tributaries where these have formed flood plains. Its thickness is unknown, but presumably averages between 25 and 50 feet. The coarser alluvium of the smaller



streams and of the fan formed at the mouth of the Zumbro generally contains abundant water, the supplies being available to shallow wells and furnishing sufficient quantities for domestic and farm purposes. The alluvial deposits of the Mississippi include a considerable amount of silt, and the supplies of water are consequently smaller.

The rock formations present the features customary in this region.

Of the upper formations of the Ordovician system only the Platteville limestone, here about 10 feet thick, is represented in the county. It caps the elevation known as Lone Mound and occurs on the highest uplands southwest of Plainview along the southern border of the county. It carries very little water and is to be considered as a source of supply only for "wet weather open wells."

The St. Peter sandstone, which in this county is about 100 feet thick, lies beneath the Platteville limestone on Lone Mound and on the high land near Plainview and outcrops over a considerable area of the uplands in the vicinity of this village. Owing to the fact that it occurs only on the higher lands, where its waters can escape to lower levels, it is not commonly a source of water supply in Wabasha County, though it would furnish water in moderate amounts to wells on the upland about Plainview and in parts of Mount Pleasant Township.

The Shakopee dolomite underlies a considerable part of the uplands, especially in the west and south. It has a thickness of about 35 feet and is generally less than 50 feet and rarely over 100 feet below the surface. It is reached by domestic and farm wells, to which it will yield small supplies.

The New Richmond sandstone, which is about 20 feet thick, outcrops on the uplands several miles back from the bluffs of the Mississippi and the Zumbro. It affords small supplies of hard water to the wells penetrating it.

The Oneota dolomite, which is very similar to the Shakopee, forms the upland crests and upper parts of the cliffs along the Mississippi and Zumbro valleys. It carries some water in its joints, bedding planes, and solution channels, and at a distance from its outcrops usually yields enough for farm purposes.

The Jordan sandstone, which in this region is a buff or yellow sandstone 100 to 120 feet thick, outcrops in the lower parts of the cliffs. It forms an important water-bearing bed and will yield good supplies to deep wells almost anywhere in the county. The water from this formation fails to rise to the surface, except perhaps in the Zumbro Valley.

The St. Lawrence formation, which consists of shales and limestones with some sandstone beds, is exposed at the base of the cliffs and lies beneath the flood plains of the Mississippi and the lower portion of the Zumbro, having a maximum thickness of about 230 feet. It will yield only small amounts of water.

The Dresbach sandstone is estimated to be about 50 feet thick in this county. It will yield large quantities of water, which is confined by the St. Lawrence formation under pressure sufficient to lift it nearly or quite to the surface.

The underlying shales and sandy layers have a thickness, according to the section of the Wabasha well, of about 150 feet, and according to the section of the Lake City well considerably greater. These are not important as a source of water, but serve to confine under artesian pressure the water in the subjacent sandstone. The underlying porous Cambrian sandstone is 225 feet or more thick and will yield large volumes of water that rises nearly or quite to the surface.

Beneath the sandstone just described, according to the evidence of the Lake City well, there are 320 feet or more of red shale, sandstone, and quartzite which are not water bearing. Underlying these will be found the granite, which is likewise void of available water.



The railroad well at Lake City, drilled in 1882 by W. E. Swan, for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, disclosed some interesting features. The sand and gravel (alluvium) extended down 207 feet; the blue sand and shale (lower part of the St. Lawrence), extended under that 68 feet; the sandstone (Dresbach) and gray sand shale extended under that 127 feet; the yellow and gray sandstone extended under that 88 feet; and the red shale and quartzite extended under that 320 feet; making a total investigation of 820 feet beneath the surface. At that early date, Mr. Swan stated that the red clastic series was never known to add materially to the water supply furnished by overlying beds, and he advised the withdrawal of the drill whenever it was reached.

At first the principal sources of water supply in addition to the springs and streams, were shallow wells dug into the surface deposits, after the manner in which the settlers from the eastern states had secured water from the sand and gravel deposits immediately beneath the surface of the soil in many regions in those states. But the inferior quality of the water found in the surface wells in Wabasha County, its liability to pollution, and failure in dry seasons, together with the fact that in some parts of the county it was almost impossible to obtain any water at all from surface wells, gradually led to the substitution of deeper drilled wells. In those parts of the uplands remote from the river valleys, the wells are commonly from 100 to 150 feet deep, but near the edges of the plateau many go to depths of 250 to 350 feet or even more. In the valleys, driven wells sunk into the alluvium to a depth of 20 to 75 feet afford the most common source of supply, but when large volumes are required, drilled wells are sunk into the underlying sandstones.

Springs emerge at numerous points along the base of the cliffs bordering the rivers, both from the sandstones and the limestones. Some are of considerable size, and are important sources of domestic and farm supplies. Springs also issue from the limestone on the uplands, but their volume is generally small.

Springs usually emerge from the top of an outcrop of an impervious formation. Thus the top of the St. Lawrence, essentially a shale formation, and the top of the Shakopee, a compact dolomite, mark the situation of most of the springs of the county.

Back from the Mississippi and Zumbro and Whitewater Rivers, water stands in wells at a considerable depth below the surface, and as lower supplies have been tapped the head has gradually been lowered. In the valley of the Mississippi River the water rises nearly to the surface, but it does not flow either in Lake City or in Wabasha, though flows are obtained at Red Wing to the north and Winona to the south. It is improbable that flows can be obtained by new wells at either Lake City or Wabasha, but it is possible that they could be procured along the Mississippi south of the Zumbro.

An inspection of the analyses shows no great difference in the quality of the underground water from different formations. The water from the Plain-view well, which comes largely from the Jordan sandstone, is better than that from the alluvium of Lake City, Wabasha, and Weaver.

The natural resources of the county are similar to those of several other counties in the southeastern part of the state. The soil is fertile and apparently very durable and almost inexhaustible. The timber is sufficient for fuel for the residents within the county and also supplies a quantity of hardwood lumber. Nearly every farm has a grove, either of natural growth timber or of planted trees. Material suitable for making red brick is found throughout the county. The making of cement blocks has proven successful. Some quarrying has been done, and some lime has been burned. A bed of porcelain clay is believed to exist in the northern part of Chester and Guilford. Gold has been washed from the drift on the southeast quarter of section 25, Chester Town-

ship, and at points southwestwardly to Zumbro Falls; also on section 6 and 27, Mazeppa.

NOTE.—A more detailed description of the Geological features of Wabasha County will be found in the "Geology of Minnesota," 1882-1885 (St. Paul, 1882) II, 1-19.



## CHAPTER II.

### ABORIGINAL REMAINS.

That Wabasha County has been the home of man through countless generations is shown by its numerous earthworks. These earthworks follow the course of the waterways, being the more numerous along the Minnesota, Zumbro, the Whitewater, and Indian Creek. The evidences are many that these mounds were not built by a race distinct from the Indians, but that the Mound Builders were in fact no other than the more or less immediate ancestors of the Indians found here by the whites. The relics found in them indicate a state of society and mode of life in every way identical to that of the Indian.

Much interesting material has been written on that subject, and N. H. Winchell's "Aborigines of Minnesota" contains, aside from general discussion of aboriginal inhabitants of Minnesota, a detailed description of some of the remains found in Wabasha County. Since that time many of these mounds have been obliterated by agricultural operations, road construction, spring time freshets and excavations by investigators. The following survey is reproduced from that work:

Zumbro Valley Mounds. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 15, T. 110-10. This group and the one to the southwest, on S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section, were probably at one time connected. This group consists of 21 circular mounds, situated on a high plateau about 25 feet high, of cultivated land.

S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 15, T. 110-10. This group of 21 mounds was probably connected with the last. Three of these are short elongated mounds of the ordinary form, and form part of the series. They are all on a plateau about 15 feet above the bottom. The largest is 48 by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 15, T. 110-10. On a plateau 25 feet above the bottom. The ground now consists of 6 mounds, but formerly many more existed north of these. Three of these are 50 feet in diameter, one is 42 feet, and two are 30 feet.

S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 15, T. 110-10. On a plateau about 65 feet above the bottom are two circular and one elevated mound. The largest is 30 feet by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet; another is 26 feet in diameter and has been excavated.

A lone mound is on a spur of the bluff about 150 feet above the river, on S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 18, T. 110-10. It is 35 feet in diameter and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet high; and another is on a high bluff on N.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 17, T. 110-10, also about 150 feet above the Zumbro. This is 30 feet by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet. Another is on a point of the plateau about 70 feet above the river, on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 27, T. 110-10, 35 feet by 2 feet. This is west of Kellogg about one mile.

S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 21, T. 110-10. Three circular mounds are on a plateau about 70 feet above the Zumbro, the largest being 32 feet by 4 feet.

A lone mound is situated on the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 19, T. 110-10. It is 45 feet in diameter and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet high.

S.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 21, and N.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 28, T. 110-11. This group of 22 mounds is on the bluff of the Zumbro, 70 feet above the river, where it flows north. They are all circular but one, which has the dimensions 70 feet by 40 feet by 5 feet. One tumulus, 32 feet in diameter and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet high, has been excavated.

A lone mound is on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 5, T. 109-11, 40 feet in diameter and 3 feet high. Formerly there were several others at this point.

S.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 21, and N.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 28, T. 110-11. This



group of 22 mounds is on the bluff of the Zumbro, 70 feet above the river, where it flows north. They are all circular but one, which has the dimensions 70 feet by 40 feet by 5 feet. One tumulus, 32 feet in diameter and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet high, has been excavated.

A lone mound is on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 5, T. 109-11, 40 feet in diameter and 3 feet high. Formerly there were several others at this point.

Two tumuli are on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 24, T. 110-11, about 75 feet above the river. One is 38 feet and the other 28 feet in diameter, but they are each 3 feet high.

N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 22, T. 110-10. These six mounds extending in a somewhat irregular line from southeast to northwest, are all circular but one, which has the dimensions 42 by 35 feet. The top of the last mound to the northwest is 39 feet above the top of its nearest neighbor to the southeast, and is about 130 feet above the river. These mounds were built from dirt and broken sandrock taken from the bluff.

Center of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 22, T. 110-10. Group of 5 tumuli is situated on the terrace about 25 feet above the river. These tumuli are of ordinary size, the largest being 44 feet in diameter and the smallest 26 feet.

W.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 19, T. 110-10, about 75 feet above the Zumbro. This group consists of 13 circular mounds, the largest being 58 feet by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and the smallest 24 feet by 1 foot.

S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 14, and S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 13, T. 110-11. This group of 34 mounds embraces 3 effigies and 4 elongated mounds. The former are not in the line along the brow of the bluff with the tumuli, but the elongated mounds are in the general line of extension of the group. Still, the effigies are not far removed, and are apparently to be considered as parts of the group. One represents a bird in flight, but with its wings half closed, as if descending to its perch. The others are near together and represent some animal with a heavy tail and short neck, but a large head. They might be considered a poor imitation of the profile form of a dog, or a fox, or a wolf, or a beaver, or a raccoon. The tail of the bird has not a rectangular termination like those of Prior Lake in Scott County, but a widening and rounded end, which is encroached on by the public road. Between the wings this bird is 2 feet high. The largest tumulus is 52 feet in diameter and 5 feet high. Another is 42 feet by  $6\frac{1}{2}$  feet; another 50 feet by 3 feet, and still another 42 feet by 5 feet. The plateau on which this group is situated is 75 feet above the Zumbro.

N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 12, T. 110-11. Here are three sub-groups. The first contains two tumuli about 40 feet above the bottom, about 25 feet in diameter and 5 feet high. The second contains three tumuli situated nearly east of the last 150 yards. The terrace here is about 40 feet above the bottom. The mounds are near the edge of the slope. The largest is 46 feet by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The third sub-group contains two similar tumuli, 300 yards southeast of the last and about 60 feet above the valley.

A lone mound is on a point about 200 feet above the valley, on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 10, T. 110-11. It is 35 feet by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

Hill group, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 10, T. 110-11. This group contains 98 mounds. They are on a terrace about 55 feet above the bottom. There are many others that are just traceable. In this group are a number of circular excavations, some of which have embankments on the outside. It includes 5 elongated mounds or embankments, one bird effigy, and many "Mandan lodges," or circles. The elongated mounds have about the same width as the average diameter of the tumuli, many of which are 18 feet or 20 feet, the largest 45 feet by 6 feet. One circular embankment has an exterior diameter of 38 feet and interior 20 feet. The bird effigy has a rounded termination of tail (or body) and the head is hardly a head, being only a low rounded protuberance without any neck. This effigy is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet high in the center between the wings, 1 foot at the narrowest part of the body, and two feet near the end of the body. Including the head the body is 63 feet long.



There is every reason, excepting only the form of the effigy, to class it as a cotemporary work and a part of the group. It is highly improbable that a single earthwork, such as this effigy, should be erected at this spot by any earlier race. If it be supposed that it was formerly accompanied by others of like form, it is highly improbable that all the others should have disappeared, leaving this only intact. It appears, therefore, that the makers of the round tumuli and of the embankments were the architects of the effigy. The two mounds just south of the circular excavation with outside embankment, already described, are each 24 feet in diameter, one 2 feet high and the other 2½ feet. Hence this locality has the appearance of having been the residence of a class of people who constructed circular houses, identical with those of the Mandans, who are a branch of the Dakota family. It is possible that on excavation some remnants of the wooden posts that supported the superstructures would be found. Mr. Brower denominated these "earthern lodge circles."

Mounds west of Lake City, N. W. ¼, N. W. ¼, section 5, T. 111-12, situated on a terrace about 15 feet above a lower terrace. This group now shows 10 mounds, but formerly others existed toward the northwest, which have been scraped down. These tumuli average about 35 feet in diameter, and three of them have been excavated. The one farthest north is peculiar in having an extension which tapers from a width of 25 to 20 feet, with a rounded end. At one end it is 4 feet high; at the other 1½ feet.

According to Dr. L. C. Estes (Smithsonian Report, 1866, p. 366) extensive fortifications and forts once existed at Lake City. It is evident, however, that he exaggerated the regularity and size of these embankments. He notes, however, one "very large mound," "the only one out of line." He considered the mounds generally as places of habitation rather than of burial, the large ones being "forts."

Mounds 1½ miles south of Lake City, S. W. ¼, section 9, T. 111-12, on a plateau about 22 feet above the creek. The "marsh mounds" opposite this group contained pottery, stone axes and arrow-heads. This group embraces 57 mounds of which nine are elongated and the rest tumuli. The largest is 38 feet by 3 feet and the smallest 17 feet by one foot. Several are 18 feet and 20 feet in diameter.

A lone mound is on the shore of Lake Pepin, S. W. ¼, S. E. ¼, section 15, T. 111-11, about 25 feet above the lake, 25 feet in diameter and 2 feet high.

Kellogg mounds, S. W. ¼, S. W. ¼, N. W. ¼, N. W. ¼, section 16, T. 110-10. Including one inclosure there are 15 earthworks in this group. One of the mounds is ovate, rather than conventionally oblong. They are about 30 feet above the river. One of the mounds seems to be composed of an elongated mound and a tumulus, the latter attached so as to form a rounded enlargement near one end. The embankment of the inclosure above mentioned is 14 feet wide and 1 foot high. The sides are 68 feet long.

Wabasha mounds, W. ½, section 29, T. 111-10, upper group. This group contains 80 mounds, mostly small tumuli, crowded so that some of them are quite in contact. The width of the embankments is from 20 feet to 26 feet. They are also sometimes in contact with each other and with some of the tumuli. They run parallel with the bluff, and are nearest the bluff, the tumuli being irregularly spread over the land further back. The terrace is 44½ feet above the river and slopes westward.

On the point of land inside the city limits, and between the Mississippi and the slough back of the town, there have been found old earthern lodge circles and pieces of ancient clay vessels.

Wabasha mounds, S. W. ¼, section 29, T. 111-10. These are five large mounds having diameters 54 feet, 80 feet, 68 feet, and 60 feet, the heights being, respectively, 3 feet, 4½ feet, 4½ feet and 2 feet. They are on the original townsite. There is a slough between this plateau and the main town. A traveled road runs over the sides of the mounds next the slough.



Mounds two miles below Wabasha, on S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 3, T. 111-10, on a plateau 42 feet above the bottomland. This group contains 11 tumuli, the larger ones being on the brow of the bluff and the smaller ones scattered over the surface further back. The largest is 60 feet by 3 feet and the smallest are 23 feet by 1 foot.

Mounds two miles below Wabasha, W.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 3, T. 110-10, about 40 feet above the slough. This is a large group of 81 mounds, mostly small tumuli, ranged closely along the brow of the bluff, some of them in contact. Two of them are connected by a low embankment, 125 feet long, and one of the elongated mounds tapers from a width of 27 feet to 18 feet, being 99 feet long. The other elongated mounds are normal as to size and position. One mound is entirely nondescript. It seems to have been started as a wide elongated mound, but one end flares out into three short, spreading prongs. Its form suggests nothing. It is curious anomaly in the midst of simplicity and uniformity.

Indian Creek mounds, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 24, T. 109-10, on a terrace about 60 feet above Indian Creek. The group embraces 11 tumuli of rather uniform and medium size, ranging from 22 feet to 35 feet in diameter. The group is about 600 feet from Indian Creek.

Whitewater River mounds, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 29, T. 109-9, on a terrace about 60 feet above the river. This group contains 6 tumuli of rather uniform and medium sizes, ranging from 25 feet to 42 feet in diameter, and from 2½ feet to 6 feet in height.

One mile south of Weaver, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 32, T. 109-9. This group comprises two tumuli of the same size and height on cultivated land on a plateau about 40 feet above a slough.

A low mound is at Minneiska, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 34, T. 109-9, on a very small terrace about 65 feet above the river. It is 30 feet in diameter and 2 feet high.



## CHAPTER III.

### REIGN OF THE INDIANS.

From the days of the early explorers Wabasha County was ranged by the M'dewakanton band of the Dakota Indians, although, so far as is known, they had no permanent villages here. In the forties and fifties of the nineteenth century they had several favorite camping places here, especially in the Zumbro Valley.

The Chippewa, who lived to the northward, made many a murderous foray against the Dakota of this region, even as late as the days of the white settlement in the fifties, using the Chippewa River as their warpath.

The Dakota embrace the principal division of the Siouan family, and are more commonly called by their family name of Sioux, rather than by their individual name of Dakota. In the Siouan family are numbered not only of the Dakota proper, but also of the Winnebago, the Assiniboin, the Minnetare group, and the Osage and southern kindred tribes.

The word Sioux, now applied to the whole linguistic family, though by the early settlers applied to the Dakota alone, is a corruption of the word Madouessi or Nadouescious, the French rendering of a word meaning literally "the snake-like ones," or figuratively "the enemies," the name by which the Chippewa and other Algonquin Indians called the Dakota. Dakota, variously spelled, was applied by this branch for the Siouan family to themselves, and means "joined together in friendly compact," an unconscious prophecy of the "E. Pluribus Unum" which was to become the motto of the United States of America.

An important division of the Dakota were the M'dewakanton tribe, who ranged the Mississippi as far south as the Illinois River country. At one time the M'dewakanton had their headquarters about the Mille Lacs region in northern Minnesota, hence their name which means "The People of the Spirit Lake." Evidently driven out by the Chippewa, who had obtained arms from the whites, they established themselves in seven villages along the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers.

The Wabashas were the head chiefs of the M'dewakanton. Their immediate band, in which was probably a mingling of the former Mantanton, became the buffer band between the other Dakota and their enemies on the south. From Mille Lacs they moved to the mouth of the Rum River, near Anoka, Minn., then to the mouth of the Minnesota River, not far from St. Paul, Minn., then to Red Wing, Minn., and then to Winona, Minn., where they established themselves permanently. With headquarters at Winona, which they called Ke-ox-ah, and where the annual games of all the M'dewakanton were held, they had at different times, temporary villages on the Upper Iowa, on the Root River, at Trempealeau, and at Minnesota City.

Three Wabashas are known to the history of Wabasha County. The origin of the dynasty is shrouded in antiquity. But some time in the first quarter of the eighteenth century a powerful Dakota chief married a beautiful Chippewa princess, and by her had two sons, both of whom were raised as Dakotas. The eldest was Wabasha I. Later, returning to her own people, the Chippewa princess married a noted Chippewa brave. One of the children born to this union was Mamongazida, a famous Chippewa chief, who was the father of the still more famous Wabajeeg. Thus the princess became the ancestress of two royal houses, one ruling the M'dewakanton Dakota and the other the Chippewa. Wabasha I was probably born about 1720. In spite of his traditional Chippewa blood, he frequently engaged in fierce warfare against the people of that nation.



Our first real knowledge of Wabasha I (then rendered by the French, Ouabashas) dates from March 9, 1740, when he is recorded as having met Pierre Paul, the Sieur Marin (after commander of a Lake Pepin stockade in 1750-52) on the Rock River, in Wisconsin. At that time Wabasha I and those with him offered to surrender themselves and to submit to punishment for the slaughter by some Dakota warriors of several Chippewa who had been under the personal protection of the French.

After France, by the treaty of 1763, relinquished its titles in North America to England and Spain, the French traders began to withdraw from the Sioux country. The English were slow to take their places because they feared the Indians. The Sauk and other Algonquin leaders continued their fight against the English. The French had withdrawn their authority, and the British had not yet time to look after the Indians of the west. Passage through the Indians of the Wisconsin country was fraught with the greatest danger. And the attitude of the Sioux themselves was suspected by reason of a murder which had taken place about 1761, when a trader, called by the Indians, Pagonta, or the Mallard Duck, was shot while smoking in his cabin at Mendota by Ixkatapay, a Sioux Indian with whom he had quarreled.

The absence of the traders worked a great hardship on the Indians. They had degenerated by contact with the whites. No longer were they the noble lords of the wild who had been able to wrest their living from the forests and plains and streams. They had lost their skill with the spear and with the arrow. They had been taught to depend on the whites for ammunition and provisions. Now they could no longer obtain these articles, and as the result they were reduced to absolute want.

Therefore, the Indians of the neighborhood of Winona, Red Wing, South St. Paul and the Minnesota River held a conference, as the result of which they resolved to surrender Ixkatapay, to promise peace, to beg the traders to return, and to implore the protection of the British. The council selected a delegation of nearly 100 to go to Quebec on this mission, with Ixkatapay as a prisoner. Wabasha I was leader of this party. They went by way of the Wisconsin and Fox Rivers, but before they reached Green Bay one after another deserted. There all but six had turned back, taking Ixkatapay with them. The chief, Wabasha I and five others, true to their trust, kept on their way.

Reaching Quebec, Wabasha I explained the situation and the condition of his people, and offered himself for execution for the murder of the trader, in the place of Ixkatapay, but implored the British to take his people under their protection and to send ammunition and goods at once to his suffering tribes in exchange for the furs that they had on hand. Struck with his noble character the English granted all he asked, and gave him seven medals for the seven bands of his tribe, one of which medals was hung about Wabasha's own neck. It is said that Wabasha I was also presented with a red cap and gaudy uniform.

It was natural that Wabasha I having been signally honored by the British, and having received succor at their hands, should side with the English against the colonists in the Revolutionary War. The British traders were active in instigating the Indians to hostility against the Americans. Wabasha I was recognized as a leading chief. He was directed in his movements by the English commander at Mackinac. In 1779 Wabasha I and his warriors were at Prairie du Chien, awaiting instructions as to whether he should attack the Sauk and Fox for favoring the Americans. In 1780 Wabasha I was the leader of a thousand Sioux, designed to reinforce the British at Kaskaskia and attack the settlements at St. Genevieve, Mo. Wabasha I, who in the official reports is called General Wabasha, was highly commended by the British officers for his discipline, valor and uncommon abilities, and was mentioned in the war correspondence of the time as commanding a force of Indians in no way inferior as soldiers to the regulars of the British army. Wabasha I was at Prairie du



Chien at the conclusion of the peace between Great Britain and the colonies, and promised to respect the fact that war had ceased. During the revolution Wabasha I made several trips to Montreal, and it was especially stipulated that on account of his position as commander of so large a force, his visits to Mackinac were always to be welcomed by the British with a salute of the cannon, the cannon to be loaded with solid shell instead of with blank cartridges.

Wabasha I died of cancer of the neck on the Root River in Houston county, January 5, 1806. There is a traditional story that he had been exiled from the main body of the band by the murderous hate of his brothers, but as he had been in public life sixty-six years, and must have been considerably more than eighty years of age, it seems more probable that he had gradually committed the chieftainship to his son.

Some time before the death of his father, Wabasha II became nominal chief of the band. He was low of stature, was not a warrior, and is said to have hated war. He was a wise and prudent man, especially in council, and was a strict abstainer from whiskey. He highly admired and appreciated the arts of civilization and desired that his people should be profited by them. He was called The Leaf, La Feuille, corrupted to Lafoy and to La Fye. Unless there is a mistake in Pike's map the Wabasha band in 1805 was located on the upper Iowa River, though possibly this was a temporary camp for that year. It was evidently during the early years of the reign of Wabasha II that the band moved its headquarters to the present site of Winona, though probably the Indians had used the prairie site of the city for various purposes long before that date.

Wabasha's braves espoused the cause of the British in the war of 1812. Wabasha II himself was opposed to war, but was sometimes led into it by his hot-headed soldiers. He was with the other Indians at the unsuccessful siege by the British, in 1813, of Ft. Meigs, on the Maumee River, in northwestern Ohio. The fort was then held by the Americans under William Henry Harrison, later president of the United States. The Winnebago having killed an American soldier, appointed a feast at which each guest was to eat a morsel of the soldier's body. One of the Dakota, being invited to partake, said: "We came here, not to eat the Americans, but to wage war against them." Then Wabasha II said to the Winnebago: "We thought that you, who live near to the white men, were wiser than we who live at a distance; but it must, indeed, be otherwise if you do such deeds." The result was that the feast was not held.

After the treaty of peace made at Ghent, December 24, 1814, the British agents in Canada sent invitations to the Dakota chiefs to attend council to be held at Drummond Island, about fifty miles east of the Straits of Mackinac. Wabasha II, Little Crow and others attended. The agents explained to them that the king across the waters had made peace with the Americans and that hostilities must cease. After lauding the valor of the Indians, the British offered them blankets, knives and other goods as presents, but they were rejected. The paltry presents so aroused the indignation of Wabasha II that he addressed the English officer as follows:

"My Father, what is this I see before me? A few knives and blankets. Is this all you promised at the beginning of the war? Where are those promises you made at Michilimackinac, and sent to our villages on the Mississippi? You told us that you would never let fall the hatchet until the Americans were driven beyond the mountains; that our British father would never make peace without consulting his red children. Has that come to pass? We never knew of this peace. We are told it was made by our Great Father beyond the water, without the knowledge of his war-chiefs; that it is your duty to obey his orders. What is this to us? Will these paltry presents pay for the men we have lost, both in the battle and in the war? Will they soothe the feelings of our friends? Will they make good your promises to us? For myself, I have always found means of subsistence, and I can do so still."



Beginning with Pike, Wabasha II met all the early explorers who came up the river in the next twenty years. He signed the treaties of 1816, 1825 and 1830. He visited Washington in 1824. He was at the head of his tribe during the Red Bird War and the Black Hawk War and at the time of the bringing in of the Winnebago. Every white who came in contact with him spoke most highly of his worth and character. He died about 1836 of small-pox. He was probably at that time about sixty-three years old. Many of his band perished at the same time. The Wabasha band thus reduced in numbers, faded in influence and importance, though its head continued to be recognized as the nominal head chief of all the seven bands of the M'dewakanton.

Wabasha II, at his death in 1836, was succeeded by his son, Wabasha III, whose original name was Tahtapesaah, the Upsetting Wind. Wabasha III is the Wabasha best known to the whites. He signed the treaties of 1836, 1837, 1851 and 1858. Like the two Wabashas who came before him he was shrewd and cautious. He was friendly to the whites, but from a sense of justice upheld the Winnebago in their opposition to their removal to the inhospitable Long Prairie country in central Minnesota. By the treaties of 1851 he relinquished his title to all his remaining lands in Wabasha county, but he and his band continued to hunt here at least until 1860. Wabasha III led his warriors in the Sioux Uprising of 1862, but he was opposed to it, and was the first to make proposals of peace even while his nation were still in arms. He finally withdrew his followers from Little Crow's camp, and in his new camp of some 100 lodges, protected many whites and mixed bloods. Before this he had been in friendly communication with the white commanders for some months. He died April 23, 1876, at the Santee agency in Nebraska. With profound grief he has seen the gradual degeneration of his people at the whim of the whites, and well realized the duplicity and theft that the Dakota suffered from all the white men with whom they came in contact. The descendant of an ancient line whose empire had once been larger and richer than many a European nation, he spent his latter years as a lonely old man, refusing to join in the readjusted life of his people, and sadly pondering over the wrongs that had been done him.

Several of the prominent early families of Wabasha and vicinity were related to Wabasha III by marriage and descent. It is in honor of this chief that Wabasha County is named. The neighboring county of Winona was named for his sister or cousin, Wee-no-nah, wife of Mock-ah-pe-ah-ket-ah-pah.

The land in Wabasha County and the vicinity came into possession of the whites through a series of treaties made between the United States Government and the Indians. The Prairie du Chien Treaty of 1825 fixed certain boundaries between a number of the tribes of the upper Mississippi. The treaty confirmed the Dakota (Sioux) in the possession of vast tracts west of the Mississippi, as well as to certain lands east of it. Wabasha County and the lands opposite in Wisconsin were thus definitely acknowledged by the whites and the neighboring bands of Indians as being under the sovereignty of the Dakota, with Chief Wabasha as reigning potentate.

The Prairie du Chien treaty of 1830 provided for the relinquishment by the Sioux of all claim to land in northwestern Missouri and western Iowa, especially the country of the Des Moines River Valley. A tract of land in the present Goodhue, Wabasha and Winona counties was set aside for the mixed bloods. A neutral strip taking in a portion of southeastern Minnesota was also established. By the Treaty of Washington, 1837, the Dakota relinquished all their lands east of the Mississippi, and the islands therein, so the Wabasha County islands and the lands across the river in Wisconsin passed from the Indians to the whites.

All the land in this part of Minnesota was relinquished by the Dakota Indians by the treaty made with the upper bands, signed at Traverse des Sioux, July 22, 1851, and with the lower bands signed at Mendota, August 5, 1851. At both places a feature of the gathering was a large brush arbor erected by Alexis Bailly, an early Wabasha trader.



Wabasha, from whom the county is named, opposed the Treaty of Mendota, but seeing the futility of opposition, and realizing that the Indians by refusing to give up their land would subject themselves to extermination by the whites, he was the second to sign.

The written copies of the Traverse des Sioux and the Mendota treaties, duly signed and attested, were forwarded to Washington to be acted upon by the senate at the ensuing session of congress. An unreasonably long delay resulted. Final action was not had until the following summer, when, on July 23, 1852, the senate ratified both treaties with important amendments. The provisions for reservations on the upper Minnesota for both the upper and lower bands were stricken out, and substitutes adopted, agreeing to pay 10 cents an acre for both reservations, and authorizing the president, with the assent of the Indians, to cause to be set apart other reservations, which were to be within the limits of the original great cession. The provision to pay \$150,000 to the half-bloods of the lower bands was also stricken out. The treaties, with the changes, came back to the Indians for final ratification and agreement to the alterations. The chiefs of the lower bands at first objected very strenuously, but finally, on Saturday, September 4, 1852, at Governor Alexander Ramsey's residence in St. Paul, they signed the amended articles, and the following Monday the chiefs and head men of the upper bands affixed their marks. As amended, the treaties were proclaimed by President Fillmore, February 24, 1853. The Indians were allowed to remain in their old villages, or, if they preferred, to occupy their reservations as originally designated until the president selected their new homes. That selection was never made, and the original reservations were finally allowed them, Congress, on July 31, 1854, having passed an act by which the original reservation provisions remained in force. The removal of the lower Indians to their designated reservation above Redwood Falls on the Minnesota River, began in 1853, but was intermittent, interrupted, and extended over a period of several years. The Indians went up in detachments, as they felt inclined. After living on the reservation for some time, some of them returned to their old hunting grounds, where they lived continuously for some time, visiting their reservation and agency only at the time of the payment of their annuities. During this period they ranged Wabasha County, especially the valley of the Zumbro. Finally, by the offer of cabins to live in, or other substantial inducements, nearly all of them were induced to settle on the Redwood Reserve, so that in 1862, at the time of the outbreak, less than twenty families of the Medawakantons and Wahpakootas were living off their reservation.

Wabasha County thus passed entirely from the hands of the Indians, and since that date but few have been seen in the county, though some few lived out long lives in the vicinity of Wabasha, became famous local characters, and here ended their days.

As already mentioned, the Prairie du Chien treaty of 1830 set aside a "Half Breed Tract" in the following language:

"The Sioux bands in council have earnestly solicited that they might have permission to bestow upon the half-breeds of their nation the tract of land within the following limits, to-wit: Beginning at the place called the Barn, below and near the village of the Red Wing chief, and running back fifteen miles; thence, in a parallel line with Lake Pepin and the Mississippi, about 32 miles, to a point opposite Beef, or O'Boeuf, River; thence fifteen miles to the Grand Encampment opposite the river aforesaid; the United States agree to suffer said half-breeds to occupy said tract of country; they holding by the same title, and in the same manner that other Indian titles are held."

The boundary line of this tract, as indicated on modern maps, starts at Red Wing, extends southwest fifteen miles, turns southeast, enters Wabasha County in section 18, Town 110, Range 14 (Chester Township), and runs southwest through Chester Township, Zumbro Falls village, Hyde Park, Oakwood and



Plainview townships, to a point in the upper part of section 24, Town 108, Range 11 (Plainview Township); thence northwest through Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Whitewater Township, Winona County, and Watopa and Greenfield townships, Wabasha County, to a point on the Mississippi River in section 18, Town 110, Range 9 (Greenfield Township), the other boundary being the Mississippi River and Lake Pepin. It thus included in Wabasha County the entire townships of Mount Pleasant, Gillford, Lake, West Albany, Pepin, Glasgow, and Wabasha; and parts of the townships of Chester, Hyde Park, Oakwood, Plainview, Watopa and Greenfield. The townships not included, either in whole or a part, were Mazeppa, Zumbro, Elgin and Minneiska. An exact drawing of the southeast boundary line, however, would place it about two miles farther northwest, as a point "opposite Boeuf River" would be in section 2, Greenfield Township, and it would thence extend southwest through that township, through the northwest corner of Watopa, the southeast corner of Highland, and into Plainview Township to a point in the lower part of section 10.

This "Half-Breed Tract," the reservation of which was doubtless made through the influence of the Indian traders and those in their employ who had married Indian women, subsequently was the cause of much trouble which delayed the permanent settlement of the lands involved.

A provision was made in the treaty of August 5, 1851, arranging for the purchase of the tract by the Government for \$150,000. This clause, however, was stricken out by the United States senate. Later a list of the half-breeds, mostly the children of the traders, was made out, and scrip issued entitling each to a certain number of acres, the location within the tract to be chosen by the holder.

When General Shields brought the scrip to Minnesota for distribution, a great portion of it passed into the hands of parents or guardians of children, and from them it passed into the hands of speculators.

About this time there were probably two hundred families of whites settled upon the agricultural portions of this tract, some in what is now Goodhue County and some in what is now Wabasha County. Some of these people had settled in the tract in ignorance of its limits, or of the fact that its status was different from that of the other government lands. Others knew of the provision of the 1851 treaty, purchasing the lands, without knowing the further fact that the clause had been rejected by the Senate; others were adventurous and were willing to take their chances even though they knew their settlement was illegal; other more cautious ones secured quit-claim deeds from individual half-breeds or permission from the Indian relatives of the half-breeds. These quit claims and these permissions were of course valueless, as the half-breeds had no rights except that embodied in the scrip and could transfer such rights only by transferring the actual possession of the scrip. Nothing but this scrip would avail in filing on any portion of the land.

The actual settlers had naturally taken up the choicest portions, and in many cases had made somewhat extensive improvements. The soil had been broken, crops raised, and buildings and fences erected by people who were in reality only squatters without legal rights. When strangers who had purchased scrip from the speculators attempted to take up these improved claims and oust the squatters, the trouble began, and those who were actually in possession effected an organization and resorted to extreme measures to avoid being dispossessed. These actual settlers had the sympathy of all the surrounding population, but holders of the scrip had the legal advantage of the situation, and commenced to obtain titles to farms already improved. Red Wing, where the land office was located, at once became a scene of excitement. Meetings were held by the actual settlers and counsel taken as to methods of procedure. They assessed upon themselves a tax, and sent one man to Washington to demand justice, as they called it, in their behalf. They secured from



the land office correct copies of plats of all the townships and fractional townships included within the tract, and every quarter-section upon which a settler had made improvements was definitely marked. Holders of scrip were publicly warned against filing upon such land. At a meeting of those interested in the cause of the settlers, which was held at the Kelly House in Red Wing, March 17, 1856, a vigilance committee of 21 members was chosen to prevent any more scrip being laid upon land already occupied. This committee was empowered to demand that in every case where scrip had been laid on the land of actual settlers, said scrip should immediately be raised. The members of the committee were men of dauntless courage and muscular power, and devoted their whole time and energy to the work until it was accomplished. Two of them stood as sentinels at the land office armed with loaded revolvers, constantly watching every transaction therein, being relieved by another two at stated times. In the meanwhile the majority of the committee were acting as detectives, arresting and bringing to trial those who had offended, the trial not being before a court of justice, but before the committee. There was at that time no courthouse and no jail, and the lawyers knew that the scrip holders were acting within their legal rights. The holders, however, were threatened and intimidated by the committee and through fear compelled to raise the scrip, though there is no record of any personal injury being inflicted on anyone. That such would have been inflicted in case of continued resistance there is little doubt, as one man was led to a hole cut through the ice in the river, and given his choice either to raise his entry of scrip or be put through the hole, and though he was a man of strength and courage, he found it prudent to submit. There were other cases of the same kind. The excuse for these extreme measures was soon after removed by a decision from the land office at Washington, whereby those who had settled on a tract of this land and made improvements thereon, had the pre-emption and homestead rights the same as on other government lands. The same decision granted to the holders of half-breed scrip the privilege of laying the same upon any other Government land not previously claimed by an actual settler. All the vacant land on the half-breed tract was taken very soon after this decision, the situation near the river enhancing its value. The disadvantage of a few miles from market was considered a great drawback in those days, before the advent of railroads. Few or none of the mixed bloods ever cared to settle on the agricultural land thus set apart for them. Occasionally, a decade or two afterward, there was an echo of the half-breed affair, when some half-blood whose guardian has sold his (the half-breed's) scrip rights, would, upon attaining his majority, demand of the settler on the property that he, too, be paid. In most cases these demands were complied with, the farmers, whose lands had greatly enhanced in value, deeming it wiser to pay a small sum than to undergo the expense of a lawsuit. Thus passed the last vestige of Indian title to the rich valleys and plains of this county, which was once, and for countless generations, a camping and hunting ground of the red men.

The existence of this half-breed tract accounts in a measure for the present flourishing village of Plainview, as the village of Greenwood, which once bid fair to be the metropolis of southern Wabasha County, was within the tract, and titles for awhile were consequently uncertain.



## CHAPTER IV.

### EARLY EXPLORERS.

The first civilized men<sup>1</sup> to gaze upon the picturesque scenery in this vicinity were probably Father Louis Hennepin,<sup>2</sup> a priest of the order of Recollects of St. Francis, and his two companions, Antoine du Gay Auguel, known from his birthplace as "le Picard," and Michel Accault. They were sent out by Robert Cavelier de La Salle, from Fort Crevecoeur, near Lake Peoria, Illinois, February 28, 1680. They were on their way up the Mississippi when they were captured by a band of Sioux warriors on the warpath against the Illinois and Miami nations. These Sioux took the white men to the Mille Lacs region in northern Minnesota. Hennepin speaks of the Black River (R. Noire) and declares that the Sioux called the stream Cha-be-de-ba or Cha-ba-ou-de-ba. He mentions the Buffalo River (R. de Boeufs), which he said was full of turtles, and which he ascended for several leagues. It is believed that in reality he ascended Beef Slough, which was at that time possibly the main channel of the Chippewa River.<sup>3</sup> He does not mention any other river which would correspond with the Chippewa of the present day. He says that the mouth of the R. de Boeufs was as wide as that of the Illinois.

The party slept one night at the point of Lake Pepin. Hennepin named the lake, Lac des Pleurs, the Lake of the Tears, because of the excessive weep and lamentations of some of the Indians in the party. The chief, Aquipaguetin, had lost a son, killed by hostile Indians in the Illinois country. It was customary when a member of the tribe had met death by violence, to kill an enemy in revenge, whether the enemy was guilty of the death or not, and Hennepin declares that this ostentatious show of grief over the killing of the young prince was for the purpose of inducing some of the friendly Indians to consent to the death of one or more of the whites to console the tribe for the loss of the chief's son. This is the first European mention of Lake Pepin.

After spending some time in the Mille Lacs region, Hennepin and Auguel, leaving Accault as a hostage, were taken down the Mississippi by the Indians looking for supplies which La Salle was to have sent to the mouth of the Wisconsin. On their way down the river, guarded by a chief Ouasicoude (Wacoota) and a company of Indians, Hennepin and Auguel came to St. Anthony Falls (near Minneapolis), which Hennepin named. They continued down the river and again passed what is now Wabasha County. July 11, 1680, while hunting for the mouth of the Wisconsin River, the party was overtaken by more Indians, headed by Aquipaguetin, a Sioux chief who had taken Hennepin into his family as an adopted son. Some time was spent in hunting in the region between the Chippewa River and the Wisconsin River. In these wanderings, Accault and his guards joined the party and were left for a while at the mouth of the Chippewa (or possibly at the mouth of Beef Slough). Here and on various islands the squaws hid meat. Then the party descended the river and hunted over the prairies further south. July 25, 1680, while again ascending the river, the party encountered Du Luth and a body guard of French soldiers.<sup>4</sup> Daniel Greysolon, better known as the Sieur Du Luth (variously rendered), had started out from Montreal on September 1, 1678, explored the Lake Superior region and the territory westward, met the Sioux in the Mille Lacs region, and on July 2, 1679, set up the standard of New France at their village. He returned to Lake Superior from that lake the next summer, ascended the Brule River, made the portage to the St. Croix and was on his way down the Mississippi when he learned that Hennepin and his two companions were in slavery among the



Sioux.<sup>5</sup> Hastening to the rescue, Du Luth journeyed down the Mississippi with an Indian and two Frenchmen, and after a canoe trip of two days and two nights, overtook Hennepin and about 1,000 Indians. This meeting probably took place near Trempealeau Mountain or possibly somewhat further south. Du Luth fearlessly took Hennepin in his own canoe and started up the river to the Mille Lacs region, which they reached August 14, 1680. There, at a council he upbraided the Indians in scathing terms. He told them that Hennepin was his brother; he denounced them for making Hennepin and the two companions slaves and taking away Hennepin's priestly clothes; he taunted them after receiving his peace offerings, and being associated with Frenchmen for a year, they should have kidnaped other Frenchmen on their way to make them a friendly visit. As a climax Du Luth returned the peace calumets which the Indians gave him. The savages began to make excuses, but this did not deter Du Luth from his resolution to take Hennepin away. Hennepin himself was rebuked by Du Luth for suffering insult without resentment, as such conduct lowered the prestige of the French. Toward the end of September, Du Luth, Hennepin, and their party once more descended the Mississippi River and reached Canada by way of the Wisconsin River, the Portage, the Fox River and Green Bay. Thus, in the fall of 1680, Hennepin and Du Luth and their companions beheld for the last time the picturesque surroundings of this region.

Hennepin's account of his adventures contain many interesting descriptions of life on this portion of the Mississippi in that far-distant time. One day the Indians in the party captured and killed a deer while it was swimming across the Mississippi. But the weather was so hot the flesh spoiled in a few hours. Thus left without food, the Indians caught a few turtles, but the capture was difficult, Hennepin says, because the turtles would plunge into the water and evade capture. They caught but four fish and were very thankful whenever they could secure a Buffalo fish dropped by an eagle. Hennepin was particularly interested in the peculiar appearance of the shovelnose sturgeon. He saw one which an otter caught, and Auguel declared it reminded him of a devil in the paws of an animal. But after frightening the otter away, they ate the fish and found it very good.

Another early explorer of the upper Mississippi region, who for some time maintained a habitation in this region, was Nicholas Perrot, who for some twenty years was a trader in the Northwest for the French.<sup>6</sup> Perrot arrived at Green Bay, where he was already well known, in the late summer of the year 1685. He found the Indians restless and inclined to intertribal warfare, so that some time spent in their pacification. It was later than he had planned, therefore, when he set out for the country of the Sioux, where he hoped to secure a great harvest of valuable furs. After crossing the Wisconsin portage, and proceeding down that river to its mouth, he turned his little fleet of canoes boldly upstream; but as the weather was growing cold and traveling difficult, they "found a place where there was timber, which served them for building a fort, and they took up their quarters at the foot of a mountain, behind which was a great prairie abounding in wild beasts." To one familiar with the topography of this section, the description of the site of Perrot's wintering quarters in 1685-86 is very clearly that of the Trempealeau Bluffs, because these are the only bluffs near the river having a large, low prairie in their rear, and Trempealeau Mountain, moreover, is a well-known landmark on the upper Mississippi.<sup>8</sup>

Just when Perrot left his wintering place at Trempealeau, and built St. Antoine, further up the stream, is not certain, but it was probably during the summer of 1687. He was continuously in the upper Mississippi region until the spring of 1687, when he was ordered to proceed eastward with allies and join the French in a war against certain Indians of New York State. In the meantime he had amassed a stock of furs worth 40,000 livres. In his absence on the warpath these were left at the mission house at Green Bay, which was burned by hostile Indians, with the loss of all his peltry.



In the autumn of 1687 he set out once more for the Northwest to retrieve his ruined fortunes. After the ice had begun to form on the Fox River, he passed down the Wisconsin to the Mississippi and ascended the Mississippi to this region. Whether he then occupied the old wintering place at Trempealeau or Fort St. Antoine further up is not clear. At Fort St. Antoine, on May 8, 1689, he took possession of the Sioux country in the name of the King of France, annexing the Minnesota and St. Croix River district and all headwaters of the Mississippi.<sup>9</sup>

While modern historical scholarship is convinced that Perrot's wintering quarters of 1685-86 were near the modern Trempealeau, the exact location of Fort St. Antoine cannot now be determined.<sup>10</sup> The Franquelin map<sup>11</sup> of 1688 shows the fort as located just above the mouth of the Chippewa on the Wisconsin side. But at that time the Chippewa River may have flowed through the present channel of Beef Slough and mouthed with the Beef (Buffalo) River on the Wisconsin side above Alma. In modern times ruins have been discovered in section 23, Township 23, Range 15 (Stockholm Township, Pepin County, Wisconsin), a little above the present Chippewa River; and in Section 21, Township 23, Range 13 (Nelson Township, Buffalo County), just above the mouth of Beef Slough, either of which may have been left by Perrot. If the last named is the correct location, then it may be surmised that the Indians who came to hear the famous proclamation of Perrot in 1689, gathered across the river from the fort, at the Grand Encampment, near Tepeeota Point, in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County. Later explorers, however, quite definitely place Perrot's fort on the east shores of Lake Pepin, and thus considerably above the Grand Encampment, though the exact limits of the Lake Pepin of those days is not now to be determined, there being considerable evidence that it then extended further north and further south than at present. Ruins have been discovered at Tepeeota itself and within the city limits of Wabasha, which unauthenticated traditions have also ascribed to Perrot, but which were probably of different origin. Added interest is given the ruins at Tepeeota by the fact that the De L'Isle map of 1700, shows "Fort de Bon Secours ("Good Help") below Lake Pepin, nearly opposite the mouth of the R. des Boeufs (Chippewa or Buffalo River).

One of the witnesses of the French proces-verbal, or proclamation, issued at Fort St. Antoine, taking possession of this region in the name of the King of France, was Pierre Charles le Sueur, an explorer and trader, whose work added to the knowledge given to the world by Perrot. In 1695 le Sueur built a fort on Pelee Island (a short distance above Red Wing), which was maintained about four years, during his own absence in France. He later returned and conducted an expedition in search of copper in the Blue Earth country, Minnesota, in 1700. In ascending the Mississippi from its mouth, he found that the remains of a fort, possibly Fort St. Antoine, on Lake Pepin, and his own island fort above Red Wing, were plainly to be seen.<sup>12</sup> He passed Wabasha County on his upward journey between September 10 and September 14, 1700. The Red (Black) River, the Raisin (probably the Zumbro or Whitewater) the River Paquitanettes (possibly the Buffalo), the River Bon Secours (Chippewa), and Lake Bon Secours (Pepin) are mentioned in the account of the voyage. The Chippewa is described as a large and beautiful river, abounding in great numbers of buffalo, elk, bear and deer.

Penicault, who accompanied Le Sueur, writes: "In this region commenced a lake, which is six leagues long and more than one broad, called Lake Bon Secours (Good Help, now Lake Pepin). It is bounded on the west by a chain of mountains; on the east is seen a prairie; and on the northwest of the lake there is another prairie two leagues long and one wide. In the neighborhood is a chain of mountains quite two hundred feet high, and more than one and a half miles long. In these are found several caves, to which the bears retire in winter. Most of the caverns are more than seventy feet in extent, and two



hundred feet high. There are several of which the entrance is very narrow, and quite closed up with saltpetre. It would be dangerous to enter them in summer, for they are filled with rattlesnakes, the bite of which is very dangerous. Le Sueur saw some of these snakes which were six feet in length, but generally they are about four feet. They have teeth resembling those of the pike, and their gums are full of small vessels, in which their poison is placed. The Scioux say they take it every morning, and cast it away at night. They have at the tail a kind of scale which makes a noise, and this is called the rattle."

Penicault mentions the ruins of a fort on the right (east) side of Lake Pepin, which he said was built by Perrot, whose name at that time it still bore. As Le Sueur was one of Perrot's companions, this apparently places Perrot's Lake Pepin fort. Fort Perrot and Fort St. Antoine are believed to have been identical.

At Frontenac, just above Wabasha County, there were three successive French forts. Fort Beauharnois, 1727-28; St. Pierre's post, 1736-37; and Marin's post, 1750-55. In the meantime Linctot had occupied a post, probably at Trempealeau in 1731-36. This region therefore became a favorite hunting ground, and Wabasha County became well known to the traders.

French rule in the upper Mississippi Valley ended with the treaty of February 10, 1763, when the Mississippi, nearly to its mouth, became the boundary line between the possessions of England and Spain. Three years later, in 1766, Jonathan Carver, a native of Connecticut, set out to explore the new British domains in the Northwest.<sup>13</sup> Starting from Boston in June, 1766, Carver traveled to the strait of Mackinaw and Green Bay, and thence, by the canoe route of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, to the Mississippi. Then he ascended the Mississippi, accompanied by a French-Canadian and a Mohawk Indian. He spent the winter of 1766-67 among the Sioux of the Northwest. In the spring of 1767 he descended the Mississippi to the present location of Prairie du Chien in the hope of securing goods. Disappointed there, he ascended the Mississippi to the Chippewa River and reached Lake Superior by way of that stream and the upper tributaries of the St. Croix. It was afterward claimed that he had made a treaty with the Sioux, granting him a tract of land about a hundred miles wide along the east bank of the Mississippi, from the falls of St. Anthony (at Minneapolis) to the southwestern end of Lake Pepin. The southern boundary of the tract extended due east from the mouth of the Chippewa. On the strength of this alleged treaty many claims were from time to time presented to the United States Government, but Congress has always refused to recognize the claim of Carver's heirs and successors.

Of the much discussed earthworks at Tepeeota in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, and of the Lake Pepin scenery, Carver says: "On the first of November, I arrived at Lake Pepin, a few miles below which I landed, and, whilst the servants were preparing my dinner, I ascended the bank to view the country. I had not proceeded far before I came to a fine, level, open plain, on which I perceived, at a little distance, a partial elevation that had the appearance of entrenchment. On a nearer inspection I had greater reason to suppose that it had really been intended for this many centuries ago. Notwithstanding it was now covered with grass, I could plainly see that it had once been a breastwork of about four feet in height, extending the best part of a mile, and sufficiently capacious to cover five thousand men. Its form was somewhat circular and its flanks reached to the river.

"Though much defaced by time, every angle was distinguishable, and appeared as regular and fashioned with as much military skill as if planned by Vauban himself. The ditch was not visible, but I thought, on examining more curiously, that I could perceive there certainly had been one. From its situation, also, I am convinced that it must have been designed for that purpose. It fronted the country, and the rear was covered by the river, nor was there



any rising ground for a considerable way had commanded it; a few straggling lakes were alone to be seen near it. In many places small tracks were worn across it by the feet of the elks or deer, and from the depth of the bed of earth by which it was covered, I was able to draw certain conclusions of its great antiquity. I examined all the angles, and every part with great attention, and have often blamed myself since, for not encamping on the spot, and drawing an exact plan of it. To show that this description is not the offspring of a heated imagination, or the chimerical tale of a mistaken traveler. I find, on inquiry since my return, that Mons. St. Pierre, and several traders have at different times, taken notice of similar appearances, upon which they have formed the same conjectures, but without examining them so minutely as I did.

"Lake Pepin is rather an extended part of the Mississippi River, that the French have thus denominated, about two hundred miles from the Wisconsin. The Mississippi below this lake flows with a gentle current, but the breadth of it is very uncertain, in some places it being upwards of a mile, in others not much more than a quarter. This river has a range of mountains on each side throughout the whole of the way; which in particular parts approach near to it, in others lie at a greater distance. The land betwixt the mountains, and on their sides, is generally covered with grass, with a few groves of trees interspersed, near which large droves of deer and elk are frequently seen feeding. In many places pyramids of rocks appeared, resembling old ruinous towers; at others amazing precipices; and what is very remarkable, while this scene presented itself on one side, the opposite side of the same mountain was covered with the finest herbage, which gradually ascended to its summit. From thence the most beautiful and extensive prospect that imagination can form opens to your view. Verdant plains, fruitful meadows, numerous islands, and all these abounding with a variety of trees that yield amazing quantities of fruit, without care or cultivation, such as the nut tree, the maple which produces sugar, vines loaded with rich grapes, and plum trees bending under their blooming burdens, but above all the fine river flowing gently beneath and reaching as far as the eye can extend, by turns attract your admiration and excite your wonder.

"The lake is about twenty miles long and near six in breadth; in some places it is very deep and abounds with various kinds of fish. Great numbers of fowl frequent also this lake and rivers adjacent, such as storks, swans, geese, brants and ducks; and in the groves are found great plenty of turkeys and partridges. On the plains are the largest buffaloes of any in America. Here I observed the ruins of a French factory (at Frontenac), where it was said Captain St. Pierre resided, and carried on a very great trade with the Naudowessies (Sioux) before the reduction of Canada."<sup>14</sup>

At the close of the Revolutionary War, the land east of the Mississippi became a part of the new United States by the treaty of September 3, 1783. Spain continued in possession of the land west of the Mississippi from 1762 to October 1, 1800, when the tract was ceded to France, which nation, however, did not take possession until 1804, at which time a formal transfer was made from Spain to France, in order that France might formally transfer the tract to the United States under the treaty of April 30, 1803.

Two years later the Government determined to send an expedition into the Northwest, in charge of Zebulon M. Pike. He was given orders to negotiate treaties with the Indians, to secure a conformity with the laws of the United States by the Northwest Company and others engaged in the fur trade, to secure the site for a fort near the head of Mississippi River navigation, and to extend geographical exploration. He started from St. Louis, August 9, 1805, with twenty soldiers, spent the winter in northern Minnesota, started down the river April 7, 1806, and again reached St. Louis the latter part of that month.

Pike passed Buffalo and Pepin Counties, September 15 and 16, 1805.<sup>15</sup> Saturday, September 14, Pike and several companions landed below Winona



for a hunt, while others with the boats continued up the river. Pike and hunters ascended Sugar Loaf, and followed the crest of the Minnesota bluffs to Minnesota City, where they descended and made their way across the sloughs and morasses to a point opposite Fountain City, where the boats were already at anchor at the mouth of Eagle Creek. The night was spent in camp at the present site of Fountain City. They made an early start on Sunday morning, September 15, passed the Whitewater (Minneiska) and Zumbro Rivers, and encountered a rainy afternoon. They camped that night on the west side of the river, Pike opposite the mouth of Beef River, near Tepeeota, and some of the party, owing to a broken canoe, camped some three miles below him. They continued their trip next day, and had supper on the west side at the foot of Lake Pepin. The evening being fair, they adjusted a sail to their bateau, and with violins playing in general jollity, started to sail across Lake Pepin. But a storm came up, and shelter was found near Stockholm in Pepin County. It was only with difficulty that some of the boats and canoes following the bateau were brought safely to land. The trip was continued in the face of a gale the following morning. Pike again passed Wabasha County on his trip down the river the following spring.

Major Stephen H. Long led an expedition up the Mississippi in 1817.<sup>16</sup> The voyage was made in a six-oared skiff. The party passed Wabasha County on their way up the river July 13 and 14, 1817, and July 19 and 20, going down. Long described the scenery of this region in the most glowing terms. He stopped at Winona, Saturday, July 12, and was met by Wabasha who had hoisted two American flags. There he witnessed an Indian Bear Dance, which he describes at length. He spent the night encamped on a sand bar. Continuing his journey he passed the Zumbro, Clearwater and Beef Rivers. He called the Zumbro the Embarrass River and gave the information that just above its confluence with the Mississippi it united with the Clearwater. The Zumbro, he said, was navigable in high water for some forty miles and the Clearwater fifteen. Indians frequently hunted in the neighborhood of these rivers, but at this time had no permanent establishments on either. Some time during the day the expedition passed the unoccupied cabin where the interpreter of the expedition, Augustin Rocque, had spent the previous winter trading with the Indians.

Long describes the Grand Encampment at Tepeeota, and the scenery of Lake Pepin, and also gives the tradition of Wee-no-nah's leap. Continuing his narrative of Sunday, July 13, he says:

"Passed the River au Boeuf coming in from the north. It is of moderate size and is navigable in high water about 30 miles. Buffaloes are found on this river, which gives occasion to its name; the Indians hunt them here in all seasons; they are not, however, very numerous. Opposite to the mouth of this river, on the west side of the Mississippi, is a large prairie, situated between the bluffs and the river, being about two miles in width; on a part of it is a scattering growth of timber. Should there be occasion to send troops into this quarter, they might be posted to advantage at this place, as the position would be secure and at the same time afford a tolerable command of the river. The elevation of the prairie above the river is about 25 feet. Upon the upper end of the prairie is the Grand Encampment, or place of general resort for the Indian traders during the winter, for the purpose of trafficking with the Indians.

"Arrived at the foot of Lake Pepin about dark. The wind favorable, but very gentle through the day.

"Monday 14.—The wind blew violently from the southeast through the night, but as it was too dark to take out courses, we could not avail ourselves of the advantage it would otherwise have been to us. Set sail at an early hour, but the wind soon shifted into the northwest, and was so strong ahead that we could make but little progress either by rowing or cordelling. Were in consequence delayed about one and a half hours, during which Mr. H. Hempstead



and myself ascended the bluff in order to enjoy a prospect of the neighboring country. The place where we were was at the lower extremity of Lake Pepin. From the height we had a view, not only of the lake and the majestic bluffs that bound it, but also of the surrounding country to a considerable extent. The contrast between this and the view we had two days before is very striking. The bluffs are more regular and more uniform in their height. The back country is rolling rather than hilly, and has comparatively but little timber upon it, particularly on the west of the river. The valley between the bluffs, which was before thronged with island, sand-bars, pools and marshes, is here occupied by a beautiful expanse of water, with nothing to obstruct the view upon its surface but the shores of the lake. At the lower end of Lake Pepin, which has its general course about east-southeast, Chippewa River coming in from the north. It is about 500 yards wide at its mouth, and is navigable for pirogues about 50 miles at all times, and in high water much farther. From its appearance, however, I should judge that its navigation must be much obstructed by sand-bars. After breakfast we passed up the lake about two miles and stopped (on) the east shore for the purpose of ascertaining the width of the lake and the height of the bluffs where the high lands commence. We found the lake a few yards short of two miles wide, and the elevation of the hills 475 feet above the surface of the lake.

"About midway of the lake passed the Lover's Leap, a prominent part of the bluffs, with a perpendicular precipice of about 150 feet, and an abrupt descent of nearly 300 feet from its base to the water's edge. At this place an unfortunate squaw met with an untimely fate, as the consequence of her parent's obstinacy and persecution. The circumstances that led to this result were related by our Indian chief. (Long here gives the familiar but now discredited "Legend of Wee-no-nah").

"Passed a large encampment of Sioux Indians, two miles further up the lake, at which we left our chief. As we hove in sight they hoisted the American flag, which we saluted with a discharge of our blunderbuss. Our salute was returned by the discharge of several guns fired ahead of us. When we landed, a crowd of Indians came about us, and were very anxious that we should stop a while with them. But the wind being strong and favorable, we concluded it best to make as little delay as possible. We accordingly gave them some tobacco and proceeded on. Lake Pepin is about 21 miles long and of variable width from one and half to three miles. Through the greater part of its length it occupies the whole width of the valley situated between the river bluffs. There are, however, two prairies of considerable size within the valley, that appear possessed of an excellent soil, and are advantageously situated in regard to their elevation above the water. There are a few unimportant brooks emptying into the lake. About four miles above the lake is a river coming in from the west called Cannon River."

On the trip down the river, Long and his party passed Wabasha County, September 19 and 20. On Sandy Point in Lake Pepin they found a band of Indians making ready for a hunting trip up the Chippewa River.

With the establishment of Fort Snelling, near St. Paul, in 1819, Wabasha County was placed within the pale of civilization, and thereafter soldiers, traders and visitors were frequently passing, while the Chippewa, Buffalo and Trempealeau Rivers became famous hunting grounds. The expedition which established the fort, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Leavenworth and accompanied by Major Thomas Forsyth, the Indian agent, passed Wabasha County in August, 1919.<sup>17</sup> On the night of August 12, the party camped below Trempealeau Mountain, and on August 13, spent the night at the present site of Winona, where Forsyth had a long talk with Wabasha. The night of August 14 was spent at the "Tumbling Rock," and the night of August 15, about a mile above the Driftwood River. The night of August 16 was spent at the "Grand Encampment" below Wabasha, and the night of August 17 at the foot of Lake Pepin. Lake Pepin was crossed August 19.



General Lewis Cass, with his party, including Henry Rowe Schoolcraft and James D. Doty, passed Wabasha County in 1820.<sup>18</sup> They reached the upper Mississippi by way of Lake Superior, and after leaving the region of their explorations, made their way down the Mississippi. On this trip down the river Cass and Schoolcraft and their men camped somewhere between Pepin and Stockholm on the night of August 3, 1820, stopped at Winona the next day, and camped the night of August 4 a few miles below Trempealeau.

On his expedition to Lake Winnipeg, Long again passed this region, accompanied by a part of his followers. From Prairie du Chien to Fort Snelling, a part of the expedition, under James F. Calhoun, made the trip on horseback along the west bank of the Mississippi. William H. Keating, who was with the expedition, was its historian.<sup>19</sup> This time Long passed Wabasha County in the latter part of June, 1823.

The first steamer to ascend the upper Mississippi, the "Virginia," passed Wabasha County in May, 1823, and arrived at Fort Snelling, near the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers, May 10. A number of prominent people were aboard. Steamboat traffic thus being opened, this region was a point of interest to all travelers and became widely known. J. Constantine Beltrami, who explored the Red River of the North and the sources of the Mississippi River, was one of the passengers aboard the Virginia when it made its first trip to Fort Snelling, and made notes of this region.<sup>20</sup>

The period of exploration really ends in 1835, when this region was visited by George William Featherstonhaugh and William Williams Mather,<sup>21</sup> by George Catlin, and by a military expedition under Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen W. Kearney, the topographer of the expedition being Albert Miller Lea.<sup>22</sup>

This expedition consisted of companies B. H. and I, of the First United States Dragoons. On June 7, 1835, the detachment left Fort Des Moines and after taking a northeasterly course across Iowa, they entered what is now Minnesota, crossed Mower, Fillmore, Wabasha and Winona Counties and reached Wabasha's village, on the present site of Winona. After a week's stay there they made their return journey, passing the lake in Freeborn County which has since borne Albert Lea's name. The object of the trip was to secure more perfect knowledge of the Indians and the geography of the country traversed.

Speaking of his visit to this locality, Lea afterward wrote: "Desiring to visit Wabasha's band, the officers directed our course toward Lake Pepin and about the first of July we encamped on a small rivulet which empties into a river (the Zumbro) that enters the Mississippi four miles away, just below Lake Pepin. We encamped on the bank of this stream three days, and during that time our whole force of 164 men had as much speckled trout as we desired, all taken from a single brook only a step wide. One of my men took 130 in four hours with an improvised hook and line.

"Early in July we moved camp to the bank of the Mississippi below the lake, in sight of Wabasha's village." Among the officers of this expedition was Capt. Nathan Boone, the youngest son of Daniel Boone.

1—Dr. Warren Upham is of the opinion that Radisson and Grosseilliers made their headquarters at Prairie Island, above Red Wing, from April or May, 1655, to June, 1656. But this opinion is not generally accepted. As Dr. Louise Phelps Kellogg says: "The difficulty of interpreting Radisson's text, written in a language unfamiliar to himself, and several years after the completion of his journeys, add to the difference of opinion in regard to the route and the locations described." For Upham's conclusions see: Upham, Grosseilliers and Radisson, *Minnesota in Three Centuries* (New York, 1908), I, 127-204. Also: Same author and title, *Minn. Hist. Colls.*, X, Part 2, 449-594. Dr. Reuben Gold Thwaites has reprinted portions of the accounts of the third and fourth voyages of these two adventurers, with copious notes in: *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XI, 64-69. Dr. Kellogg has reprinted the account of the third voyage, with an introduction in: *Early Narratives of the Northwest* (New York, 1917), 29-65.



2—Thwaites, ed., *Hennepin's New Discovery* (Chicago, 1903). Or John G. Shea, ed., *A Description of Louisiana*, by Father Louis Hennepin (New York, 1880).

3—For a discussion of the identity of Hennepin's R. de Poeufs with Chippewa River, see: Elliott Coues, ed., *Expeditions of Zebulon M. Pike* (New York, 1895), I, 58, 65, notes. Also: L. H. Bunnell, *Winona and its Environs* (Winona, 1897), 52-54.

4—Kellogg, *Early Narratives of the Northwest*, 69-92.

5—The vanity of Hennepin did not allow him to admit that he was a captive and a slave, the cruel sport of the Indians. He represented that he accompanied Du Luth, because of the latter's pleasure in his society and his desire for his companionship. See: Thwaites, ed., *Hennepin's New Discovery*, 293-305.

6—Kellogg, *Early Narratives of the Northwest*, 69-92.

7—E. H. Blair, *Indian Tribes of the Upper Mississippi*, II, 25.

8—See: Eben D. Pierce, George H. Squier and Louise Phelps Kellogg, "Remains of a French Post Near Trempealeau," *Wis. Hist. Soc., Proceedings*, 1915, 111-123.

9—Thwaites, ed., *Important Western Papers*, Perrot's Minutes of Taking Possession, Id., XI, 35-36 (reprinted from the *New York Colonial Documents*, IX, 418).

10—The location of Fort St. Antoine, as well as of the other French forts of the Upper Mississippi, has been the subject of considerable controversy. The whole question is discussed in a most interesting manner in Vol. X of the Wisconsin Historical Society in the following articles: Edward D. Neill, *Early Wisconsin Exploration, Forts and Trading Posts*, 292-305; Lyman C. Draper, *Early French Forts in Western Wisconsin*, 321-372. In the latter article (368-371) Dr. Draper admirably sums up the subject substantially as follows:

"Franquelin places Fort St. Antoine on the eastern bank of the Mississippi, just above the mouth of the R. des Sauteurs (the Chippewa River). At the present time the low swampy land extends some two miles about the mouth of that stream, up the eastern shore of Lake Pepin, thus rendering it altogether improbable, if not impossible, that the post was located at the immediate mouth. About two miles above the mouth of the Chippewa, Roaring Creek empties into Lake Pepin; and a little above this creek commences the elevated prairie 40 or 50 feet higher than the bottom lands, where Perrot could have located his post. Pepin village is over a mile still higher up the prairie, occupying a beautiful situation.

"Bellin, in his 'Remarks,' on his map of 1775, mentions a small fort at the entrance (foot) of Lake Pepin, and another above, on the other side of the lake. Dr. Neill is of the opinion that the one at the entrance of the lake was Fort St. Antoine, while the one above, and on the opposite side, refers to Fort Bauharnois, at or near Frontenac, some nine miles above the foot of the lake, on the western shore. Dr. Neill, while making no attempt to fix the exact locality of Fort St. Antoine does place it above the outlet of the lake, and on its eastern shore. (Neill's *History of Minnesota*, fourth edition, p. 833; his *Pioneers and Explorers of Minnesota*, p. 31; his *Concise History*, p. 18; his *Last French Post*, p. 1).

"Edward Lees, L. Kessinger, surveyor of Buffalo County, A. W. Miller, surveyor of Pepin County, and John Newcomb, all agree that, during their long residence in that region, they never heard of any vestiges, nor any remains of embankments or ditches, nor any traditions of any old fort in or immediately near the locality of Pepin village. It is proper to add, on the authority of Mr. Miller, who, as a land surveyor, has been familiar with the Pepin region for 32 years, that had there been any old fort remains there, the drifting sand would undoubtedly have long since buried them out of sight.

"Both Mr. Newcomb and Mr. Miller, however, state that there are some vestiges of an old fort on the east side of Lake Pepin, about six miles above its outlet, and a little above the mouth of Bogus Creek, which were quite distinct at the first settlement of the country; but that the plow and cultivation have nearly obliterated them.

"This old fort locality presents apparently the strongest probability of having been the site of Fort St. Antoine. We have no historical evidence of any other early establishment having been erected on the southeastern shore of Lake Pepin.

"It may be added in this connection, that Dr. Neill in his earlier publications,



notably his 'Explorers and Pioneers of Minnesota,' supposed that La Potherie's description of Perrot's wintering establishment at the 'butte' or bluff of Trempealeau, with the post at the foot of the bluff, where timber was plenty, and the large prairie in the rear, referred to the locality of Fort St. Antoine on the eastern shore of Lake Pepin; but when he came across Franquelin's map, and examined the Trempealeau region, he discovered his error, so that description has no application whatever to Fort St. Antoine and its situation."

Lafayette H. Bunnell, *History of Winona and Its Environs* (Winona, 1897), 50-80, also discusses the subject at considerable length, and included his famous controversy on the subject with Lawrence Kessinger. Dr. Bunnell in 1844 discovered the ruins of an ancient fireplace in section 21, township 22, range 13, Nelson Township, Buffalo County, and stones from this fireplace were afterward used in building the mess house of Camp No. 2 for the Beef Slough Logging Company. Dr. Bunnell believed that this was the remains of Fort St. Antoine, his opinion being that Franquelin's R. des Sauteurs (Chippewa River) emptied into the Mississippi through the present channel of Beef Slough, and that the location where the Beef Slough Chimney was found would therefore be above what was then Chippewa River as indicated on Franquelin's map.

Louise Phelps Kellogg, *Wis. Hist. Soc. Proceedings*, 1915, 117-123, is one of the latest to discuss the subject of the upper Mississippi forts. Her footnote as to Fort St. Antoine and Fort Perrot being the same post should be read in connection with the statements of all previous writers on the subject, as many earlier writers fell into the error of supposing that these were two different places.

Further historical research may reveal interesting information regarding a possible early French fort at Tepeeota. The De L'Isle map of 1700 shows on the Minnesota shore, a little below Lake Pepin, on the Grand Encampment, opposite the mouth of the R. des Boeufs Fort de Bonsecours (Good Help). As Perrot was the only one of whom we know who had a post in this immediate vicinity prior to the date of this map, "Fort de Bonsecours" gives rise to interesting speculation. A work of some authority, N. H. Winchell, ed. *Aborigines of Minnesota* (St. Paul, 1911), 526, has said, under the incorrect date of 1683: "Nicholas Perrot established a post on the west side of the Mississippi river near the site of the city of Wabasha, but on the alluvial land at a lower level. It was about three and a half miles nearly east of the railroad station of Wabasha, and nearly opposite the mouth of the Buffalo river, at the north end of a large island. This was marked on some old maps as Fort Perrot, and later was occupied by a French trader named Roques, when it was known by the Sioux as Tepeeota, in English as Grand Encampment. The ruins of this post may have constituted what Carver saw, in 1766, and described as 'ancient fortifications,' but by what authority the statements are made does not appear, and it is not known whether the author thereof was familiar with some of the more exhaustive inquiry that has been made in regard to the geography of Perrot's activities."

11—For a reproduction of Franquelin's great map of 1688 see: Kellogg, *Early Narratives of the Northwest*, 342; also read J. Franklin Jameson's note (p. xiv) in the same volume. Also see account of Franquelin's maps in: Parkman, *LaSalle and the Discovery of the Northwest* (Boston, 1891), 455-458. A partial reproduction of the map may be found: Neill, *History of Minnesota* (Minneapolis, 4th edition, 1882), frontispiece.

13—Pierre Margry, *Decouvertes et Etablissement des Francais dans L'Amerique* (Paris, 1882), V. 413.

14—Jonathan Carver, *Travels in North America* (London, 1778), 54-56.

15—Coues, ed., *Expeditions of Zebulon M. Pike* (New York, 1895), 54-63.

16—Stephen H. Long, *Voyage in a Six Oar Skiff to the Falls of St. Anthony* in 1817, *Minn. Hist. Colls.*, II, Part 1, 17-23, 46-47, original edition.

17—Major Thomas Forsyth, *Journal of a Voyage to the Falls of St. Anthony* in 1819, *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, VII, 202.

18—H. R. Schoolcraft, *Narrative Journal of Travels* (Albany, 1821), 334-335. Also: Same author and title (Philadelphia, 1855), 165.

19—W. H. Keating, *Narrative of Long's Expedition* (Philadelphia, 1824), 271-272.



20—J. C. Beltrami, *A Pilgrimage in Europe and America Leading to the Discovery of the Sources of the Mississippi and Bloody River* (London, 1828), 178-179.

21—G. W. Featherstonhaugh, *Geological Reconnaissance*, (Washington, 1836), 130.

22—Letter Written from Corsicana, Texas, July 7, 1890, by Albert Miller Lea to H. W. Lathrop, librarian of the State Historical Society of Iowa, and published (October, 1890) under the title of Early Exploration in Iowa, *Iowa Historical Record*, vi, No. 4, p. 548.



## CHAPTER V.

### GOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION.

Jurisdiction over Wabasha county has been claimed by four nations, Spain, France, England and the United States; by the French and English colonial authorities; by Louisiana District; by the executive power of the territory of Indiana; by the territories of Louisiana, Missouri, Michigan Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, and by the State of Minnesota.

Wabasha County was one of the original counties of the territory, and with the possible exception of small portions from 1853 to 1854, the land in the present county has remained included in a county of the same name.

Spain, by virtue of the discoveries of Columbus and others, confirmed to her by the Papal grant of Alexander VI, May 4, 1493, may be said to have been the first European owner of the entire valley of the Mississippi River, but she never used this claim as a ground for taking actual possession of this part of her domains other than was incidentally involved in De Sota's doings. The name of Florida was first applied to the greater part of the eastern half of North America, commencing at the Gulf of Mexico, and proceeding northward indefinitely.

England, basing her claims on the exploration made by her along the Atlantic coast, issued to various individuals and "companies" charters to vast tracts of land extending from the Atlantic westward.

Practically, however, the upper Mississippi Valley may be considered as having been, in the first place, Canadian soil, for it was Frenchmen from Canada who first visited it and traded with its natives. The names of Canada and New France were used interchangeably to apply to the vast French possessions of the American continent. The name, Louisiana, was invented by La Salle and applied by him to the entire Mississippi Valley. But, generally speaking, the Canada, or New France, of the eighteenth century took in the upper Mississippi Valley, while the name Louisiana was used for the lower valley.

At the close of the great European conflict which found its echo in the so-called French and Indian War in America, the Mississippi became an international boundary. The preliminary treaty of peace signed by representatives of England, Spain and France, at Fontainebleau, Nov. 3, 1762, confirmed by the definite treaty signed at Paris, Feb. 10, 1763, made the Mississippi from its source to about the 31st degree of north latitude the boundary between the English colonists on this continent and French Louisiana. But on the first mentioned date, representatives of Spain and France had signed a secret treaty by which French Louisiana, including New Orleans, was ceded to Spain.

At the close of the Revolutionary War, the territory east of the Mississippi, and north of the 31st parallel, passed under the jurisdiction of the United States. By the definite treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, ratified at Paris, Sept. 3, 1783, a part of the northern boundary of the United States, and the western boundary thereof, was established as follows: "Commencing at the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods, and from thence on a due course west to the Mississippi River (the Mississippi at that time was thought to extend into what is now Canada), thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the Mississippi River until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the 31st degree of north latitude." (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, page 82).

By the secret treaty of Saint Ildefonso, signed Oct. 1, 1800, Spain receded the indefinite tract west of the Mississippi to France, which nation did not,



however, take formal possession until three years later, when a formal transfer was made from Spain to France, in order that France might formally transfer the tract to the United States under the Treaty of April 30, 1803.

By an Act of Congress, approved Oct. 31, 1803, the President of the United States was authorized to take possession of this territory, the act providing that "all military, civil and judicial powers exercised by the officers of the existing government shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct." (United States Statutes at Large, Vol. 2, page 245.)

December 20, 1803, Louisiana was formally turned over to the United States by M. Laussat, the civil agent of France, who a few years previous, November 30, had received a formal transfer from representatives of Spain. The region comprehended in the "Louisiana Purchase" as the land thus transferred to the United States was called, included all the country west of the Mississippi, except those portions west of the Rocky Mountains actually occupied by Spain, and extended as far north as the British territory. The Louisiana Purchase, therefore, embraced Wabasha county.

By an Act of Congress, approved March 26, 1804, all that portion of the country ceded by France to the United States under the name of Louisiana, lying south of the 33rd degree of north latitude, was organized as the territory of New Orleans, and all the residue thereof was organized as the District of Louisiana. The District of Louisiana was therefore the first territorial affiliation of Wabasha county. The act creating the District provided that the executive power then vested in the government of Indiana should extend to the new District. Wabasha county, therefore, had it at that time been transferred from the Indians to the whites, would have fallen under the executive power of Indiana Territory as a part of Louisiana District.

Indiana had been created a territory from the Northwest Territory, May 7, 1800, and was admitted as a State Dec. 11, 1816. In the meantime, however, March 3, 1805, Louisiana had been organized as a Territory, with full territorial powers. The name, Louisiana, however, on April 30, 1812, was taken by the Territory hitherto known as Orleans, and Louisiana, with its present boundaries, became on that date a State in the Union.

For two years thereafter there were in existence both a State and a Territory of Louisiana. But by an Act of Congress, approved June 4, 1814, that part of the Louisiana Purchase north of the State of Louisiana was given the name of Missouri with full territorial powers. The struggles in Congress which led to the Missouri Compromise; the agreement that all the area west of the Missouri and north of the parallel 36° 36' should forever be free from slavery, and the final admission of Missouri as a State with her present boundaries Aug. 10, 1821, are a vital part of the history of our Nation. This admission of Missouri as a State left the land to the northward, including Wabasha county, without a fountainhead of territorial government from that date until June 28, 1834, when it was attached to the Territory of Michigan, which had been created Jan. 11, 1805. The present Wabasha county was therefore placed under the jurisdiction of Michigan Territory. Michigan was admitted as a State, Jan. 26, 1837, the act having been passed by Congress April 20, 1836.

When Wisconsin Territory was organized by an Act of Congress, April 20, 1836, all of the Louisiana Purchase north of the State of Missouri was placed under its jurisdiction. This included what is now Wabasha county. Wisconsin became a State May 29, 1848.

The Act creating the Territory of Iowa, June 12, 1838, divided the Territory of Wisconsin along the Mississippi River, and gave the name of Iowa to the western part. Iowa remained a Territory from 1838 to 1846. The greater part of southern and southeastern Minnesota was within the jurisdiction of Clayton county. Henry H. Sibley was a justice of the peace in that county. The county seat was 250 miles distant from his home in Mendota at the mouth of the Minnesota River, and his jurisdiction extended over a



region of country which, as he expressed it, was "as large as the empire of France."

Iowa was admitted as a state December 28, 1846, and this again left the present state of Minnesota without territorial affiliation.

Minnesota was created as a territory March 3, 1849, and admitted as a state May 11, 1858.

It will therefore be seen that the territorial claim of title to Wabasha county was first embraced in the papal grant to Spain, May 4, 1493. It was then included in the indefinite claims made by Spain to lands north and northwest of her settlements in Mexico, Florida and the West Indies; by the English to lands west of their Atlantic coast settlements, and by the French to lands south, west and southwest of their Canadian settlements. The first definite claim to territory now embracing Wabasha county was made by La Salle at the mouth of the Mississippi, March 8, 1682, in the name of the King of France, and the second (still more definite) by Perrot, near the foot of Lake Pepin, May 8, 1689. This was also a French claim. France remained in tacit authority until February 10, 1763, when, upon England's acknowledging the French authority to lands west of the Mississippi, France, by a previous secret agreement, turned her authority over to Spain. Oct. 1, 1800, Spain ceded the tract to France, but France did not take formal possession until Nov. 30, 1803, and almost immediately, Dec. 20, 1803, turned it over to the United States, the Americans having purchased it from Napoleon, April 30 of that year.

March 26, 1804, the area that is now Wabasha county was included in Louisiana District, under the executive power of the officials of Indiana Territory, and so remained until March 3, 1805. From March 3, 1805, until June 4, 1814, it was a part of Louisiana Territory. From June 4, 1814, to August 10, 1821, it was a part of Missouri Territory. From August 10, 1821, until June 28, 1834, it was outside the pale of all organized government, except that Congress had general jurisdiction. From June 28, 1834, to April 20, 1836, it was a part of Michigan Territory. From April 20, 1836, to June 12, 1838, it was a part of Wisconsin Territory. From June 12, 1838, to December 28, 1846, it was a part of the Territory of Iowa, and was included in the boundaries at first proposed for the State of Iowa. From Dec. 28, 1846, to March 3, 1849, it was again without territorial affiliation. From March 3, 1849, to May 11, 1858, it was a part of Minnesota Territory and on the latter date became an integral part of that Sovereign State.



## CHAPTER VI.

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

Wabasha County, then known as Wabashaw County, was one of the original nine counties created by the First Territorial Legislature.

Governor Alexander Ramsey, the first territorial governor, arrived in St. Paul, May 27, 1849, and on June 1, 1849, issued his first proclamation. June 11, 1849, he issued a second proclamation dividing the Territory into three judicial districts. July 7, 1849, the Governor issued a proclamation dividing the Territory into seven council districts and ordering an election. The first session of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Minnesota was held at St. Paul, commencing Sept. 3, 1849.

By an Act approved Oct. 27, 1849, the Territory was divided into the counties of Washington, Ramsey, Benton, Itasca, Wabashaw, Dakotah, Wah-nata, Mahkahto and Pembina. Only the counties of Washington, Ramsey and Benton were organized for all county purposes. The others were organized only for the appointment of justices of the peace, constables, and such other judicial and administrative officers as might be especially provided for. They were entitled to any number of justices of the peace and constables, not exceeding six, to be appointed by the Governor, and their term of office was made two years, unless sooner removed by the Governor. These officers were made conservators of the peace.

Wabashaw county as "erected" by the Act of Oct. 27, 1849, composed practically all of the southern part of the present State of Minnesota. Its northern boundary was the parallel running through the mouth of the St. Croix and the mouth of the Yellow Medicine rivers; the southern boundary was the Iowa line; its eastern, the Mississippi; and its western, the Missouri; and it also included the big peninsula between the Missouri and the Big Sioux rivers, and all of what is at present southeastern South Dakota. Wabashaw County was thus the parent county of all the counties in southern Minnesota and several in South Dakota.

In 1851, by the Revised Statutes, Chapter I, the Territory was divided into Benton, Dakota, Itasca, Cass, Pembina, Ramsey, Washington, Chisago and Wabashaw counties, and their boundaries defined. Wabashaw county consisted of all the State lying between the Mississippi River and a line drawn due south from Medicine Bottle's village at Pine Bend. The line south from Pine Bend would touch what is now the western boundary of Goodhue, Dodge and Mower counties. Wabashaw county therefore took in a portion of what is now Dakota county, as well as all the present counties of Goodhue, Dodge, Mower, Wabasha, Olmsted, Fillmore, Winona and Houston. Wabashaw County was attached to Washington County for judicial purposes.

A complete county organization was authorized by an act of the Legislature approved March 5, 1853. The counties which were created or had their boundaries altered in the same act were Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Fillmore, Scott, Le Sueur, Rice, Blue Earth, Sibley, Nicollet and Pierce.

The boundary lines of Wabasha County were somewhat vague. The boundaries of several counties in southeastern Minnesota depended on the location of the southeast corner of Dakota County, a point which is much in dispute. The northeastern boundary of Wabasha County started at a point on Lake Pepin seven miles below Sand Point, down Lake Pepin and the Mississippi River to the mouth of the river variously called the Clear Water and the Minneiska and now called the Whitewater. The southeastern boundary was the whole length of the Whitewater from source to mouth. The north-western boundary was a line extending southwest from a point seven miles



below Sand Point. The southern and southwestern boundary was an indefinite line extending west and northwest from the source of the Whitewater in Olmsted County. Wabasha County therefore took in practically all the present county.

In this act of March 5, 1853, appear the following provisions:

"That the counties of Dakota, Wabasha, Fillmore, Scott, Le Sueur, Blue Earth and Nicollet be and the same are hereby declared to be organized counties, and invested with all and singular the rights and privileges and immunities to which all organized counties are in this territory entitled to by law; and it is hereby declared to be the duty of the governor at so soon a time as practicable, to appoint all county officers, justices of the peace and constables, as said counties may be entitled to by law, who shall hold their offices until their successors shall be duly elected at the next general election. That such officers so appointed in the organized and unorganized counties shall give bonds for the faithful performance of their duties in such sums as is now required by law.

"It shall be the duty of the first board of county commissioners which shall be hereafter elected in any county laid off in pursuance of the provisions of this act, as soon as the said board shall have been elected and qualified as provided by law, and the said board or a majority thereof shall determine, to locate the county seat of the county, and the location so made as aforesaid, shall be the county seat of the county to all intents and purposes until otherwise provided by law."

February 23, 1854, the boundaries of Wabasha County were defined as follows: "Beginning at the southeast corner of Township No. 107, North of Range No. 11 West; thence thirty miles to the southwest corner of Township No. 107, North of Range No. 15 West; thence north twelve miles; thence east six miles; thence north twelve miles; thence east six miles; (thence north twelve miles; thence east six miles:) thence north six miles; thence east (six miles; thence north) to Lake Pepin; thence down said Lake and the Mississippi River to the northeast corner of Winona County; thence south to the place of beginning."

The parenthesis in this act as here printed are supplied by the editor of this work. It is only by omitting from the act the words here enclosed in parenthesis that sense can be made of it. A literal reading of the act would carry the west line far into Wisconsin. The intent of the act was evidently to give Wabasha County its present boundaries, with the present eight northern townships in Olmsted County added.

By an act approved the same day, it was provided:

"1—That it shall be the duty of the Register of Deeds of Ramsey County, to forward to the Clerk of the District Court of Wabashaw County, an abstract of the votes polled for County Officers in said County, at the last election, and filed in the office of said Register of Deeds, and said Clerk of the District Court of Wabashaw County, shall, immediately after the receipt of said abstract, issue to each person having received the highest number of votes for any office, a certificate of his election.

"2—The persons receiving certificates in conformity to this act for County Commissioners of said County, shall meet on the first Monday in March, and proceed to organize as provided by law, in the same manner as if the said meeting had been had on the first Monday of January.

"3—At said meeting of County Commissioners, the persons receiving certificates for County Officers, may qualify and assume the duties of their offices, in the same manner and to the same extent, as if they had received certificates of election and qualified at the time and manner provided by law.

By an act approved Feb. 20, 1855, many counties were created or defined. Wabasha County was to consist of all the former county of that name, not included by this act in other counties. This left Wabasha County with its present boundaries. At that time, however, the meander corner on Lake Pepin between Townships 111 and 112 had not been surveyed, although its location was generally understood.



By an act approved February 20, 1856, the county seat was located on Block 31, in the town of Wabashaw as surveyed in July, 1854, and duly recorded in the Book of Town Plats of Wabasha County.

The first county election was held Oct. 11, 1853, at the home of Augustin Rocque, in what is now the city of Wabasha. The balloting resulted in the election of Christian Shively, Oliver Cratte and Peter Larrivierre, county commissioners; Alexis P. Bailly, register of deeds; C. Shively, treasurer and coroner, and Levi Murphy, sheriff.

These officers did not qualify in January, 1854, as provided by law, and the legislature passed the act already mentioned, allowing them to qualify in March, and providing for a meeting of the County Commissioners on the first Monday in March.

In accordance with this act, the first board of commissioners met March 6, 1854, with M. Shively as chairman. Alexis P. Bailly acted as clerk. A temporary seal was adopted, consisting of a circular piece of paper containing a red wafer, upon which was inscribed "Temporary Seal of the County Court of Wabashaw County." The board met again the eleventh and divided the county into three assessment districts. All that portion north of a line running from an old ferry-house, which stood a little above Read's Landing, to the western extremity of the county was made the first district, with William Campbell as assessor. The second district comprised the territory north of a line extending west from the house of Oliver Cratte on the Wabasha village levee, to the county line, not included in the first district. M. Whitmarsh was appointed assessor. The third district comprised the remainder of the county. J. McKenzie was appointed assessor. At this meeting it was discovered that Mr. Murphy was not eligible to county office, by reason of non-residence. Dr. Francis H. Milligin was therefore appointed sheriff to fill the vacancy. Wabasha was designated as the county seat.

March 20, Francis La Pointe was appointed road supervisor. March 24, Amos Wheeler was appointed assessor for the First district with power to act in the Second, the two previous appointees having failed to qualify. June 3, it was found that certain legal requirements regarding the assessment rolls had not been fulfilled, and for a while the subject of assessment and taxation was dropped.

On the same day the board designated certain election districts.

The first precinct comprised towns 108 and 109, of ranges 14 and 15; the place for holding elections was fixed at the house of Leonard B. Hodges, in Orinoco. Messrs. E. Chilson, J. Clark and G. Gordon were appointed judges of election. The second precinct comprised the rest of the county, the place for holding elections being the house of Augustine Rocque, in Wabasha, with Amos Wheeler, I. O. Seely and J. McKenzie as judges of election. A portion of the northern part of the county was set off in November as the Montezuma precinct, elections to be held at the house of John Lyons with Thomas Allen, R. S. Philips and J. Hanson as judges. Joseph Pingrey was appointed county surveyor.

In 1854, Alexis P. Bailly and John McKee, took the places of Messrs. Shively and Larrivierre, and Mr. Cratte was made chairman. The board elected in 1855 consisted of C. R. Read (chairman). Levi Cook and A. A. Weston. Mr. Read was chosen for three years, Mr. Cook for two years and Mr. Weston for one. Mr. Weston being re-elected, the board, in 1857, comprised the same members with no change except that the chair was filled by Mr. Weston instead of Read. Before the close of the term, however, Mr. Read was again made chairman, owing to an injury inflicted on Mr. Weston by the shot of an outlaw, rendering him unable to attend the meetings of the board. The members composing the board in 1858 were: C. R. Read, chairman, Henry Amerland and G. Maxwell.

Under the State Constitution which went into effect May 11, 1858, the county boards were to consist of the chairmen of each township, and representatives from the incorporated villages.



In preparation for the new supervisor system, the commissioners of Wabasha County on April 5, 1858, divided the county into eighteen townships, and designated an election place for each.

Twelve of these townships had their present boundaries with the exception that some of them have since had villages incorporated within their limits:

Bear Valley (Chester), 110-14, election at home of John Caswell, Jr.;  
 Fuller (Gillford), 110-13, at home of G. W. Manning;  
 Mount Pleasant, 111-13, at home of Benjamin Taylor;  
 Lake (often written Lake City in the records), 111-12, at Lake City Hotel;  
 West Albany (a few times called New Albany in the records), 110-12, at home of Sylvester Apellgarth;  
 Elgin, 108-12, at home of John H. Pell;  
 Pellville (often called simply Pell in the records—now Oakwood), 109-12, at home of G. S. Williams;  
 Plainview, 108-11, at home of E. B. Eddy;  
 Smithfield (Highland), 109-11 at home of Josiah Smith;  
 Richland (Glasgow), 110-11, at home of Alex. Williamson;  
 Watopa, 109-10, at home of Christ Abbott;  
 Minneiska, 109-9, at S. C. Brown Hotel.

Mazeppa took in all of 109-14, a part now being in Zumbro. The election was to be held at the Mazeppa House. Zumbro took in all of 109-13, a part of which is now Hyde Park. The election was to be held at the home of Jane Shaw.

Wabasha, with an election to be held at the Court House, occupied 111-10 and Pepin occupied 111-11, with an election to be held at the office of S. A. Kemp. The line between the two has since been readjusted. Sand Prairie, since added to Greenfield, occupied 110-9. Greenfield occupied 110-10. The election was to be held at the home of Mrs. Cole.

These townships were to take the place of the thirteen Territorial precincts, Mazeppa, Bear Valley, Concord, Zumbroa Falls, New Albany, Lake City, Pepin, Wabasha, Tepeeotah, Cook's Valley, Greenville, Minneiska and West Newton.

The first meeting of the board of supervisors was held June 8, 1858. The towns were represented as follows: Wabasha, Hiram Rogers, (chairman); Wabasha Village, J. B. Downer; Pepin, C. R. Read; Plainview, John Yale; Fuller (Gillford) F. M. Hoyt; Zumbro, G. W. Fanning; Mazeppa, C. F. Fox; Mount Pleasant, E. H. Palmer; Elgin, C. P. Crawford; Pellville (Oakwood), Lawrence Tracy; Smithfield (Highland), W. L. Cleveland; West Albany, E. B. McCollum; Watopa, William Abbott; Lake Minneiska, Richland (Glasgow), Greenfield, Bear Valley (Chester), and Sand Prairie were not represented. In the afternoon four more members presented themselves: C. W. Hackett from Lake; A. Z. Putnam from Minneiska; F. J. Collier from Greenfield and F. M. Skillman from Bear Valley (Chester). The other member of the board was Thomas Mathier, probably from Glasgow. Abner Dwelle presented himself as a member from Lake City village but was refused a seat.

The second board of supervisors met Sept. 13, 1859, and was constituted as follows: Wabasha, W. W. Prindle, Samuel Gilbert; Pepin, Thomas B. Willson; Lake City, Frank Doughty; Mount Pleasant, Benjamin Taylor; Bear Valley (Chester), F. M. Skillman; Gillford, E. M. Hoyt; West Albany, Benjamin Dodge; Glasgow (which had been changed from Richland to Wacouta, and from Wacouta to Glasgow), Hugh McGowan; Greenfield (to which this board attached Sand Prairie), Anthony Dwyer; Minneiska, A. Z. Putnam; Highland, W. L. Cleveland; Pellville (changed to Sherman, and on Jan. 5, 1872, to Oakwood) R. A. Scott; Zumbro, Isaac Jenkins; Mazeppa, W. H. Amsbry; Elgin, R. C. Stillman; Plainview, Federal C. Gibbs (chairman); Watopa, Garrett Fitzgerald.

The commissioner system having been resumed, the new board met Feb. 28, 1860. The members were Orville D. Ford, of Mazeppa; Charles R. Read,



of Pepin; Abner Tibbetts, of Lake City (chairman); and George Bryan, of Elgin.

Since then the boards have been:

1861—George Bryant (chairman), O. Wilcox, N. F. Randolph, John B. Downer and Abner Tibbetts. Tibbetts resigned and H. C. Simpson was appointed. Simpson went to war, and J. L. Armstrong attempted to take his place on the board but was refused a seat.

1862—J. L. Armstrong (chairman), N. F. Randolph, J. L. Armstrong, C. G. Dawley, A. T. Foster and Garrett Albertson.

1863—J. L. Armstrong (chairman), S. A. Putnam, W. B. Washburn, Garrett Albertson and A. T. Foster.

1864—Garrett Albertson (chairman), J. L. Armstrong, S. A. Putnam, W. B. Washburn and Albert Glines.

1865—S. A. Putnam (chairman), Albert Glines, H. B. Washburn, James G. Lawrence and Linus Richards.

1866—James G. Lawrence (chairman), S. N. Wright, H. B. Washburn, J. M. Collins and Albert Glines.

1867—S. N. Wright (chairman), J. M. Collins, James G. Lawrence, J. C. Bartlett and L. M. Gregg.

1868—L. M. Gregg (chairman), J. C. Bartlett, W. H. Amsbry, S. N. Wright and James G. Lawrence.

1869—J. C. Bartlett (chairman), James G. Lawrence, L. M. Gregg, E. C. Gearey and W. H. Amsbry.

1870—E. C. Geary (chairman), W. H. Amsbry, L. M. Gregg, J. S. Stanford and James G. Lawrence.

1871—L. M. Gregg (chairman), M. C. Humphrey, Isaac J. Cutler, E. C. Gearey and J. S. Stanford.

1872—L. M. Gregg (chairman), J. S. Stanford, M. C. Humphrey, Isaac J. Cutler and O. Wilcox.

1873—M. C. Humphrey (chairman), Isaac J. Cutler, L. M. Gregg, Sidney Cross and O. Wilcox.

1874—L. M. Gregg (chairman), O. Wilcox, Sidney Cross, M. K. Wolfe and J. C. Bartlett.

1875—Sidney Cross (chairman), L. M. Gregg, J. C. Bartlett, M. K. Wolfe and D. R. Sweezey.

1876—M. K. Wolfe (chairman), J. C. Bartlett, H. H. Dickman, R. A. Johnson and D. R. Sweezey.

1877—D. R. Sweezey (chairman), R. A. Johnson, J. H. Evans, J. C. Bartlett and H. H. Dickman.

1878—R. A. Johnson (chairman), Alonzo Darrow, Jacob Haessig, J. H. Evans and Henry Burkhardt.

1879—J. H. Evans (chairman), R. A. Johnson, Jacob Haessig, Henry Burkhardt and Martin A. Grove.

1880—J. H. Evans (chairman), Jacob Haessig, R. A. Johnson, Martin A. Grove and Henry Burkhardt.

1881—J. H. Evans (chairman), Henry Burkhardt, Martin A. Grove, J. M. French and R. A. Johnson.

1882—Martin A. Grove (chairman), Anson Peirce, J. M. French, Robert Disney and J. H. Evans.

1883—Martin A. Grove (chairman), J. M. French, Robert Disney, J. H. Evans and Anson Peirce.

1885—Henry R. Gearey, Martin A. Grove, Charles S. Hodsdon, Anson Peirce and J. H. Evans.

1887—R. C. Wright, Anson Peirce, Charles S. Hodsdon, P. C. Dickman and M. A. Grove.

1889—P. G. Dickman, R. C. Wright, James Cain, Anson Peirce and Charles S. Hodsdon.

1891—Jacob Tenny, James McGinn, James Cain, Anson Peirce and R. C. Wright.



1893—Anson Peirce, John P. Nepper, James McGinn, William Preble, Jacob Tenney.

1895—M. A. Grove, Jacob Tenney, John P. Nepper, William Preble, Anson Peirce.

1897—Peter Lamprecht, M. A. Grove, Jacob Springer, Jacob Tenney, John C. Schmidt.

1899—Peter Lamprecht, E. N. York, Jacob Springer, W. W. Cassidy, John C. Schmidt.

1901—Peter Lamprecht, E. N. York, S. A. Kennedy, W. W. Cassidy, John C. Schmidt.

1903—Peter Lamprecht, Thomas F. Kiley, S. A. Kennedy, C. C. McDonough, John C. Schmidt.

1905—Peter Lamprecht, Thomas Kiley, S. A. Kennedy, C. C. McDonough, John C. Schmidt.

1907—Peter Lamprecht, Thomas Kiley, S. A. Kennedy, Lawrence Schurhammer, John C. Schmidt.

1909—John A. Cook, Thomas Kiley, S. A. Kennedy, L. Schurhammer, John E. Schmidt.

1911—John A. Cook, Thomas Kiley, S. A. Kennedy, L. Schurhammer, John E. Schmidt.

1913—Peter Lamprecht, Thomas Kiley, Geo. Nei, L. Schurhammer, John E. Schmidt.

1915—Peter Lamprecht, Geo. W. Kuhfuss, Geo. Nei, Peter Buol, John E. Schmidt.

1917—B. C. Fisk, Geo. Kuhfuss, George Nei, Peter Buol, J. E. Schmidt.

1919—Blake C. Fisk, George W. Kuhfuss, George Nei, J. L. Gengnagel, John C. Schmidt.

**Register of Deeds.**—Alexis P. Bailly was elected to the office of register of deeds in 1853, and held the office until July, 1855, when Dr. F. H. Milligan was appointed by the county board for the remainder of the term. Mr. Abner Tibbetts held the office in 1856-7; G. W. Marsh in 1858-9, and was succeeded by C. W. Hackett, of Lake City, who nominally held the office until January 1, 1864. Mr. Hackett absented himself to serve in the army without making legal provision for the carrying on of the work of his office, and a vacancy being declared, Michael Quigley was duly elected to the office at a special election. But while the matter was still in dispute the regular term came to an end, and D. H. Eldridge, elected in the fall of 1863, succeeded to the office. He served until the close of 1867.

In the fall of 1867 O. D. Ford and N. S. Wright were competitors for the office, and both claimed the election. Mr. Wright received his certificate of election, and held the office during the year 1868, when a decision was given by the supreme court that Mr. Ford was entitled to the election. Mr. Ford held the office during the remainder of the term, and was re-elected for another term of two years. Mr. Ford was succeeded by James G. Lawrence, who held the office four years, being succeeded by H. H. Dickman, one term, and he by J. C. Bartlett. He was followed by J. B. Mullins, who was succeeded in 1889 by John Bricher.

In 1893 L. O. Cook took the office, in 1897 it passed to C. C. McDonough, in 1901 to Fred O. Wolfe, in 1905 to Henry Burkhardt, in 1909 to N. J. Biever, and in 1913 to Theodore Stegner, who has since continued to serve.

**Auditor.**—For some years the offices of register of deeds, county auditor and clerk of the county board were one. The first to bear the title of county auditor was G. W. Marsh. In the fall of 1858, W. W. McDougall was elected. It was claimed that there were irregularities in the election as conducted, and furthermore that the office of auditor was not elective. But the board confirmed the election by appointment, and Mr. McDougall served in 1859-60. E. W. Foster was elected in the fall of 1860. In November, 1861, he became a captain



in the army, leaving A. G. Foster to serve. There was considerable question as to the legality of this, and finally N. F. Randolph was appointed auditor pro tem. Then after much consideration of the subject, A. G. Foster was appointed to fill out the term. He was re-elected in 1862 and 1864. W. W. Case was elected in 1866 and was succeeded in 1871 by F. E. Stauff. In 1875 came William Campbell, followed by G. A. Perkins. Bruce Florer took office in 1885, succeeded in 1887 by G. A. Perkins. Mr. Perkins was succeeded in 1891 by M. J. O'Laughlin, who served two terms. The next six incumbents of the office each served two terms, namely: A. J. Allison, 1895-1899; Frank H. Fox, 1899-1903; Fred F. Bade, 1903-1907; Matt T. Duerre, 1907-1911; Geo. J. Ginthner, 1911-1915; John Boss, 1915-1919. George J. Ginthner again became auditor in 1919 and is still serving.

**Treasurer.**—Christian Shively was elected treasurer in 1853, but never qualified, and Dr. F. H. Milligan was appointed by the board to fill the vacancy. He held the office until January 1, 1856. William Bonnell was elected in the fall of 1856, but leaving the country soon after, the board appointed Joseph Peak, who held the office until the spring of 1857, when he left the country, and L. M. Gregg was appointed for the remainder of the term. Mr. Gregg was elected in the fall of 1857, and held the office during the years 1858-59. William W. Prindle was elected in the fall of 1859, and held the office four years. J. F. Rose succeeded him, holding the office until January 1, 1868. A. Y. Felton was elected in the fall of 1867, and re-elected in 1869. He was succeeded by Anson Peirce, who held the office two terms; he in turn succeeded by A. J. Fowler, and Mr. Fowler in January, 1882, by R. A. Johnson. In 1887 came L. H. Whitmore; in 1889, John Costello. In 1893 Geo. F. Duerre became treasurer and served until 1897, his successor being G. H. Lange, who served until 1901, when John Robinson took the office and served two terms, or until 1905, when L. L. Mathews succeeded him. In 1909 Mr. Mathews was succeeded by R. A. Jones, who in 1913 turned over the office to John M. McLaughlin. In 1919 Mr. McLaughlin was succeeded by George F. Jacob.

**Sheriff.**—At the first election held in Wabasha County, at the residence of Augustus Rocque, in what is now the city of Wabasha, on October 11, 1853, Levi Murphy was elected sheriff. He having failed to qualify, the board of county commissioners on March 13, 1854, appointed Dr. F. H. Milligan to fill the vacancy. Amos Wheeler held the office in 1854-55; Blois S. Hurd in 1856. Mr. Hurd resigned the office, and R. M. Piner was appointed in his place, holding it during the year. In the fall of that year he was duly elected, and held the office until January, 1860, when he was succeeded by H. H. Butts, who held the office until January, 1862, being succeeded by William B. Lutz. Mr. Lutz was succeeded by H. H. Slayton, who held the office four years. In the fall of 1867 William Box was elected, served three terms. He was succeeded by Sydney Smith, two terms; and he in turn succeeded by Lyman H. Gregg, two terms. In the autumn of 1881, Henry Burkhardt was elected. He was followed in 1887 by David Cratte, who served until the close of 1890, when he was succeeded by Peter L. Weimerskirch. In 1895 D. C. McKenzie succeeded Mr. Weimerskirch, and was himself succeeded in 1899 by G. G. Dickman. George Hauswedell became sheriff in 1903, and James E. McLeod in 1907. The latter was succeeded in 1911 by Julius E. Boehlke, and Mr. Boehlke in 1919 by Ed. Fitzgerald.

**County Attorney.**—Thomas Wilson was district attorney in 1856, succeeded by Samuel Cole, of Winona county, who held the office until the organization of the state. In the fall of 1857 John W. Tyson was elected county attorney, and was succeeded by S. L. Campbell, and he in turn by John B. Davis. J. D. Jaqueth was elected in 1863, and in 1865 was re-elected and resigned. John B. Davis was again elected and held the office until January 1, 1867, when W. W. Scott qualified. Mr. Scott was succeeded by J. B. Davis, and Mr. Davis by J. H. Hahn, Esq., who held the office two terms, being succeeded by Geo. H.



Matchin. Mr. Matchin held the office one term, and was succeeded by C. H. Benedict, one term, who was succeeded, January 1, 1883, by J. F. McGovern. He was followed in 1887 by John W. Steel. In 1891, J. F. McGovern came into office again. He was succeeded in 1895 by John H. Mullen, whose successor in 1897 was James A. Carley. Mr. Carley was succeeded in 1901 by Geo. H. Hammond, who served until 1905, when Mr. Carley again became county attorney. In 1909 the latter was succeeded by James E. Phillips, and Mr. Phillips in 1913 by Michael Marx, who was succeeded by John R. Foley in 1919.

**Clerk of Court.**—S. L. Campbell was appointed in January, 1856, the first clerk of the district court of Wabasha county, and held the office until the admission of the state into the Union. In October, 1857, S. A. Kemp was elected clerk under the state constitution, and held the office from 1858 to 1861. N. F. Webb was his successor and held the office for one term. Charles J. Stauff was elected in 1869, and served for a long period of years, or until 1907, when he was succeeded by Frank T. O'Flaherty. In 1915 Frank C. Goss succeeded to the office, which he has since held.

**Judge of Probate.**—H. P. Wilson held the office of judge of probate in 1856, G. F. Childs in 1857, B. C. Baldwin in 1858-59. A. Z. Putnam was elected in the fall of 1859, and held the office four years. He was succeeded by G. C. Dawley in 1864-65, who in turn was succeeded by E. Lathrop in 1866-67. He was succeeded by A. Fuller in 1868-69, who was re-elected in 1869 for 1870-71. A. Z. Putnam followed, two terms, then J. T. Pope, one term, succeeded by F. J. Collier one term. In the fall of 1882, Judge Putnam was again elected. In the fall of 1883, F. J. Collier was once more elected. In 1889 he was succeeded by Malcolm Kennedy, who held the office until 1905, when he was succeeded by Frank H. Fox. Mr. Fox's successor in 1909 was Walter A. Munger, and Mr. Munger's, in 1913, James E. McLeod, who is still serving.

**County Superintendent.**—The first to hold the office was E. Hogel, in 1866. William H. Robinson served in 1867, and he was succeeded by T. A. Thompson, who held the office until 1873. Mr. Thompson was an earnest, faithful worker, and to him is due, in a great measure, our present high standard of schools in the county. Mr. Thompson was succeeded by A. G. Hudson; Mr. Hudson, by J. H. Hays, and Mr. Hays by A. J. Greer. Scott A. Foster was elected in the fall of 1883. He was followed in 1887 by P. J. Ryan, who was succeeded in 1891 by James Keating. In 1895 J. M. Dunkward took the office and continued in it until 1899 when Hugh Leonard succeeded him. The latter's successor in 1903 was S. M. Quigley. After him, in 1907, came Jacob Reusch; then in 1911, Harry V. Fick, who served until 1919, when George H. Booth succeeded him.

**Surveyor.**—The office of surveyor was a somewhat uncertain one in the early days, and there are no adequate records of them. For the past thirty years, however, the records have been preserved. George H. Beaty was followed in 1897 by L. O. Cook, Mr. Beaty again becoming surveyor in 1901. Herman Tushaus took the office in 1903, Fred A. Wolfe in 1905, George H. Beaty in 1907, and John Rafter in 1909. The last mentioned is still serving.

**Coroner.**—The coroners of the early days have left little record of their holding of the office. As in the case of the surveyors, it is only in the last thirty years that the records have been adequately kept. Charles Gengnagle was succeeded in 1895 by P. N. Kelly, after whom the successive incumbents of the office have been: Dr. L. E. Claydon, 1897; E. J. Lange, 1901; J. L. Gengnagel, 1905; A. E. Becker, 1911; Albert C. Fitschen, 1915; the last mentioned being still the incumbent of the office.

Wabasha was the county seat by common consent from the first formation of the county, and the location was confirmed by the legislature in 1856. In 1860 a vote was taken on the question of removing the county seat to Lake City. The election was decided in favor of Lake City though there was considerable argument over the counting of the votes, and an unsuccessful resolution was introduced in the board of county supervisors ordering the transfer of the



county headquarters to that city. In 1867 the question was again voted upon. The feeling of rivalry was strong, votes were sought far and near, and criminal manipulation of the ballot boxes was freely practiced, the leaders in both cities probably being equally guilty. The votes polled for Wabasha numbered 4,052 and for Lake City, 3,013, making a total of 7,065. As the total population of the county was but 11,363, the irregularity was evident. The courts, however, confirmed the results. The Grand Jury, although urged by the district judge to bring indictments, and thus remove a criminal stain from the county, refused to act, their excuse being that the best citizens of the county were involved.

In 1858 the municipal jail at Lake City was rented for a temporary county jail. In 1860 the county secured the stone schoolhouse erected in 1858. This was fitted up as a courthouse and county offices. Improvements and enlargements were made from time to time. In 1872 a large brick building was erected in the rear for jail and sheriff's residence.

The care of the poor has been an important feature in the work of the county commissioners. In 1867 they purchased for \$4,200, a farm in Hyde Park Township, about one and a half miles north of the Zumbro River. The place was opened under the supervision of George Bartholmew, who held that office until the county poorhouse was removed from Hyde Park to Wabasha in 1873. The county commissioners in 1873, recognizing the undesirableness of attempting to care for their poor on a large farm in a secluded part of the county remote from the county buildings, where their meetings were necessarily held, exchanged the property in Hyde Park for thirty-two acres situated on the east side of the public highway running from Wabasha to Kellogg, the poorhouse standing about one mile from the court-house. The buildings at that time upon the property were quite inadequate to the uses required of them. The main building had been erected originally for a barn, and was afterward converted into a dancehouse. This building was rearranged at the expense of the original owner, and taken possession of by the county in 1873. In 1879 a comfortable hospital was built. In 1884 a large building of 30 rooms was erected for general poor house purposes. Since then improvements have been made as necessity has required, and the alms house and grounds have continued a credit to the people of the county.



## CHAPTER VII.

### COUNTY REPRESENTATION.

Wabasha County has been well represented in the Territorial and State Legislature ever since the first territorial session in 1849.

On July 7, 1849, Governor Alexander Ramsey by proclamation divided the territory of Minnesota into council districts. District 1, the St. Croix Precinct of St. Croix County, and the settlements on the west bank of the Mississippi south of Crow village (South St. Paul) to the Iowa line, included the settlements in Wabasha County. Under the apportionment of 1851, the counties of Wabasha and Washington, with the precincts of St. Paul and Little Canada, were constituted the Fourth District; and it was further ordained that Wabasha County, owing to its isolated position with respect to the occupied portions of the rest of the district should elect one of the two representatives to which the district was entitled. The apportionment of 1855 constituted Winona, Olmstead and Wabasha Counties the Ninth District, with one member in the council and three representatives.

Under territorial government, James S. Norris, of Cottage Grove, represented the district in the council in 1849 and 1851; Lorenzo A. Babcock, of Sauk Rapids and St. Paul, in 1852 and 1853; William Freeborn, of Red Wing, in 1854 and 1855; and St. A. D. Balcombe, of Winona, in 1856 and 1857.

The representatives in the house from this district during the same period were: Joseph W. Furber, of Cottage Grove, and James Wells, from the head of Lake Pepin, 1849; John A. Ford, of Red Rock, and James Wells, 1851; Fordyce S. Richards, of Read's Landing, 1852; James Wells, 1853; O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City, 1854; Clark W. Thompson, of what is now Houston County, 1855; John H. Hartenbauer, Cornelius F. Buck and James Kirkman, 1856; and Eli B. Barrows, Ephraim L. King and Alonzo P. Foster (the last mentioned from Plainview) in 1857.

On March 3, 1857, congress passed an act authorizing the people of Minnesota to form a state constitution. Each council district was to be represented in this convention by two representatives for each councilman and representative to which it was entitled. The ninth district, which consisted of Winona, Olmsted and Wabasha Counties, was entitled to eight delegates, but for some reason ten members from this district were seated. The constitutional convention, consisting of 108 members, was authorized to meet at the capital on the second Monday in July, to frame a state constitution and submit it to the people of the territory. The election was held on the first Monday in June, 1857. July 13 the delegates met, but a disagreement arising in the organization, the Republican members organized one body and the Democrats another, 59 members having seats in the former, and 53 in the latter, making 112 in all. Each of these bodies, claiming to be the legally constituted convention, proceeded with the work of formulating an instrument to be submitted to the people. After some days an understanding was effected between them, and by means of a committee of conference the same constitution was framed and adopted by both bodies. On being submitted to the people, October 13, 1857, it was ratified.

All the delegates from the Ninth District sat in the Republican wing. They were: St. A. D. Balcombe, of Winona; William H. Mills, of Olmsted County; Charles Gerrish, of Saratoga, Winona County, later of St. Charles; Simlow Harding; Nathan B. Robbins; William J. Duley; Samuel A. Kemp;



Thomas Wilson, of Winona; Rev. David L. King, of Olmsted County; Benjamin C. Baldwin, of Lake City.

St. A. D. Balcombe, a newspaper man of Winona, was president of the Republican wing, and Thomas Wilson, also of Winona, was one of its most prominent members. Benjamin C. Baldwin was among the seventeen in the Republican wing who favored a clause in the constitution granting negro suffrage.

By the apportionment of 1857, set forth in the state constitution adopted October 13, 1857, Wabasha County was constituted the Twelfth District, with one senator and three representatives. The apportionment of 1860 made Wabasha County the Tenth District, with one senator and one representative. It still constituted the Tenth District under the apportionment of 1866, with one senator, but was granted two representatives. Under the apportionment of 1871 Wabasha County was constituted the Fifteenth District, with one senator and four representatives. The apportionment of 1881 made Wabasha County the Twenty-third District, with one senator and three representatives. By the apportionment of 1889 Wabasha County became the Twenty-second District, with one senator and two representatives. The apportionment of 1897 made Wabasha County the Third District, with one senator and one representative, and no change was made with respect to this county and district under the last apportionment, of 1913.

The first state legislature assembled December 2, 1857. On March 25, 1858, it took a recess until June 2, and finally adjourned August 12. The state was admitted May 11, 1858. It will, therefore, be seen that, although this legislature is called the first state legislature, it assembled in territorial times. No session was held in the winter of 1858-59, mainly owing to the protracted session of 1857-58, which was believed to render unnecessary another one following so soon, the legislature of that year having so provided by enactment.

In 1862, on account of the Indian outbreak, an extra session was called by the governor, which assembled September 9 and adjourned September 29. The officers and members were the same as at the regular session, with one exception not affecting Wabasha County. The next extra session occurred in 1881, commencing October 11 and closing November 13. It was called for the purpose of considering the legislation of the regular session relating to the state railroad bonds, which was declared unconstitutional by the supreme court. In 1902 an extra session was called for the purpose of considering the report of the tax commission created by Chapter 13, General Laws of A. D. 1901. It convened February 4, 1902, and adjourned March 11, 1902. The officers and members were the same as at the regular session. In 1912 an extra session was called for the purpose of enacting a state-wide direct primary law applicable to all state officers, a corrupt practices act and a reapportionment law. It convened June 4, 1912, and adjourned June 18, 1912. The officers and members were the same as at the regular session, with two omissions, due to deaths, not directly affecting Wabasha County.

The men who have represented the district containing or comprising Wabasha County, in the state senate have been as follows: James Redpath, 1857-58; John T. Averill, 1859-60; John H. Pell, 1861; Linus Richards, 1862; R. Ottman, 1863 and 1864; Millville C. Smith, 1865; N. F. Randolph, 1866; J. L. Armstrong, 1867 and 1868; W. W. Prindle, 1869; W. S. Jaskson, 1870; N. S. Teft, 1871; Hugh P. Wilson, 1872; J. Waste, 1873 and 1874; J. E. Doughty, 1875 and 1876; James McHench, 1877 and 1878; P. H. Rahilly, 1879; James G. Lawrence, 1881, 1883 and 1885; Henry Burkhardt, 1887, 1889, 1891 and 1893; Allen J. Greer, 1895, 1897, 1899 and 1901; L. O. Cooke, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911 and 1913; James A. Carley, 1915, 1917 and 1919.

The representatives in the house from the district containing or comprising Wabasha County, since the organization of the state, have been as follows: Ira O. Seeley and N. S. Teft, 1857-58; J. W. Burnham, W. J. Arnold



and F. M. Skillman, 1859-60; N. S. Teft, 1861; O. D. Ford, 1862; S. L. Campbell, 1863; J. J. McKey, 1864; John B. Downer, 1865; William Brown, 1866; S. A. Kemp and J. W. Knapp, 1867; George Bryant and Frank W. Seeley, 1868; George Bryant and A. Thibbets, 1869; John Gage and A. J. Fowler, 1870; F. J. Collier and A. J. Fowler, 1871; James Thompson, John Vandyke, George Bryant and A. Boss, 1872; N. A. Gesner, T. S. Vandyke, Frank L. Meacham and William H. Campbell, 1873; P. H. Rahilly, Edward Drury, James Lawrence and J. K. Smith, 1874; Edward Drury, William P. Dunnington, W. S. Baxter and John A. Jackson, 1875; W. R. Murray, S. L. Campbell, E. D. Southard and H. D. Wedge, 1876; Lewis S. Garrard, George R. Hall, G. Maxwell and S. L. Campbell, 1877; William P. Lutz, S. L. Campbell, W. H. Feller and P. H. Rahilly, 1878; W. B. Lutz, S. L. Campbell, E. C. Geary and M. J. Fuller, 1879; G. D. Post, H. H. B. McMasters, E. C. Geary and E. D. Southard, 1881 (F. H. Milligan served in the special session in place of H. H. B. McMasters); P. H. Rahilly, S. M. Emery and Henry Baumgarten, 1883; Henry Baumgarten, Ferdinand Hempel and John Wear, 1885; S. M. Emery, M. H. Quigley and H. H. Dickman, 1887; G. D. Post, Seymour Jones and G. W. Harrington, 1889; Allen J. Greer and Andrew French, 1891, and 1893; G. D. Post and William Foreman, 1895; W. A. Munger and W. F. Milligan, 1897; W. A. Munger, 1899; L. O. Cooke, 1901; M. J. O'Laughlin, 1903 and 1905; William Foreman, 1907; James A. Carley, 1909; Carl S. Nygren, 1911; C. D. Burchard, 1913; Hugh Leonard, 1915, 1917 and 1919.



## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE EARLY TRADERS.

The fur trading days constitute a picturesque feature of early life in what is now Wabasha County. Situated as the county is in a region which was teeming with fur-bearing animals and ideal for Indian occupancy, it naturally attracted the attention of the adventurous whites. It was accessible to the upper Mississippi and Minnesota River region, ranged by the Dakota, and to the Chippewa Valley ranged by the Chippewa. Nearby, at Winona, was that important Dakota band ruled by Wabasha, who in addition to being chief of his own band was also over-chief of all the river Dakota.

There are numberless traditions in regard to the location and dates of some of the early trading posts in this vicinity, as Read's Landing and Wabasha were both favorite sites of the traders. One such tradition, which cannot now be substantiated, locates a post at the present site of Read's Landing, built about 1800, and ascribes its ownership to one of the Rocques.

In 1816 Augustine Rocque had a trading post somewhere below the foot of Lake Pepin. He pointed it out to Stephen H. Long in 1817. It was near the mouth of the Beef (Buffalo) River, but whether on the Wisconsin or Minnesota side is not known.

L. H. Bunnell in 1844 discovered the ruins of a chimney in Buffalo County, Wisconsin, near the mouth of Buffalo River, which may have belonged to Rocque's cabin, though Dr. Bunnell found growing out of it a tree which he believed to be seventy years old. The suggestion as to this having been the remains of Perrot's fort is discussed earlier in this work. Rocque had various posts in the upper Mississippi region. It was in 1826 that he established a post at Wabasha, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Of this post Governor Henry H. Sibley says: "Some idea can be formed of the great changes which have occurred since 1834, when I state that when I performed the journey from Prairie du Chien to St. Peters, now Mendota, in the autumn of that year, a distance of nearly 300 miles, there was but one house between these points, and that was a log cabin occupied by a trader named Rocque, situated below Lake Pepin, near the present town of Wabasha."

Augustin Rocque was the son of Joseph Rocque. Both were fur traders, and both were interpreters in the service of the British. At the conclusion of the war, Augustin took up his home with Wabasha's band of Indians, and established a number of posts on the upper Mississippi, extending his operations from the foot of Lake Pepin up the Chippewa River as far as the Falls, and down the Mississippi and into Turkey River and Cedar River countries in Iowa. In 1817 and in 1823 he accompanied Long up the Mississippi, and in 1826, as noted, came to Wabasha. Featherstonhaugh found him here in 1835, and gives his Indian name as Wahjustahchay, or the Strawberry. When Gen. Dodge, at the conclusion of the Fort Snelling treaty with the Chippewas, July 29, 1837, requested the Indian agent to select a delegation of Sioux and proceed to Washington, Augustin Rocque accompanied the chiefs and, in consort with Alexis Bailly, Joseph Laframboise, Francois Labathe, and others, represented the fur-traders' interests. During this visit the portraits of these representatives of the far west were taken, and that of Augustin Rocque now adorns the walls of the Indian gallery at the national capitol. When he came here he brought his family of four sons and four daughters. Two of the sons, Joseph and Baptiste are extensively quoted as to early Indian traditions. Rocque died in 1856. His body was buried at his own request on the bluff overlooking the



river and town, that his spirit might have a free outlook over the scenes of his earlier career.

The remains of an early trading post were long visible at Wabasha. Captain F. W. Seeley examined a portion of the earthworks a year or so before the Civil War, and later, after ten years' experience in the United States Army, confirmed his previous observations. His first discovery was in a dense growth of young oak, where he found an artificial earthwork ridge some eighteen inches in height, running in a straight line, and parallel to the crest of the slope overlooking the river. Further investigation showed him that the work commenced on the crest of the slope, ten rods south of what was then the Van Dyke residence, bent westward for about eight rods, then made an obtuse angle and extended parallel to the crest and directly through the location of the house, for a distance of ten rods or more.

Rocque had lived at Wabasha a short time, when he was joined by Duncan Campbell, who built on the same side of the slough.

Oliver Cratte settled within the present city limits of Wabasha in the fall of 1838. On being appointed as blacksmith to the Wabasha band, he came here and built a shack of logs on the levee, clinking it with mud and sand, and occupying it for the winter as a shop and dwelling. Unlike the majority of the white men in this region, who were French Canadians, Mr. Cratte was an Englishman. In the spring he erected a lean-to, as an addition to his former building, and brought his family here from Fort Snelling.

Oliver Cratte was born in Liverpool, England, in 1801. He was early left an orphan, and when he was still a young boy came with his sister to Canada. He learned the blacksmith trade at Montreal, and finally found his way to Mackinaw. From there he went with some traders to Prairie du Chien where he found government employment. In 1828 he was sent to Fort Snelling, and from there in 1838 he came to present site of Wabasha.

Joseph Buisson, a trader, erected a house and brought his family to Wabasha the same season as Cratte.

Francois La Bathe built a log cabin on the levee sometime after the Black Hawk war, and occupied it for some years as one of his trading posts. He sold to Alexis Bailly. LaBathe was of mingled French and Dakota blood, being a nephew of Wabasha III, and a grandson of Wabasha II. Entering the fur trade as a youth he soon established a large business, and was confidential agent of various prominent representatives of the American Fur Company. His relationship with the Wabasha band gave him a commanding position with Indians and whites alike. At various times he maintained different posts and wood yards in this vicinity. The early settlers of 1852, found the ruins of a large cabin some four miles below the mouth of the Whitewater. This may have belonged to La Bathe, Grignon, or Rolette. La Bathe was killed in the Indian massacre of 1862.

Alexis Bailly was one of the younger generation of fur traders. He was born at Mackinac in 1798, a son of Joseph Bailly. Alexis entered the fur trade as an employee of Joseph Rolette. Later he was established as agent of Rolette and the American Fur Co., at Mendota, Minn. There he married Lucy, daughter of Alexander Faribault. In consequence of some dispute with the Indian agent, Bailly was in 1835 superseded at Mendota by H. H. Sibley, and later removed down the river to Wabasha, where he had a store and warehouse and also conducted some Indian trade. He was a member of the first Minnesota territorial legislature, and died at his home in Wabasha, June 3, 1861.

In the winter of 1821-22, Augustin Grignon and Joseph Rolette, Sr., rival fur traders, had trading posts not far from the mouth of the Zumbro River, the exact location being unknown. Rolette was not here in person but was represented by an agent. At the instigation of Rolette, the cabin of Grignon was destroyed by Wabasha's Indians and his goods scattered. Thereupon Grignon established himself twenty-five miles below his original post.



Nelson's Landing, in Wisconsin, near the mouth of the Chippewa, was established as a trading-post in 1841 or earlier, by the man for whom it was named.

It was in 1840 that an Englishman, Edward Hudson, who had been a soldier at Ft. Snelling, came to the present site of Read's Landing, and located here. His wife, a daughter of Duncan Campbell, was one of the mixed bloods for whom the "Half-Breed Tract" had been set apart, and although no procedure for the division of the land among the half-breeds had at that time been inaugurated, it was ostensibly in pursuance of her rights, that Hudson occupied land here. Hudson found himself without the means to build any considerable-sized house, and as the lumbering operations on the Chippewa were growing into importance, and it was desirable to establish some base of supplies on the Mississippi at the mouth of the Chippewa, a proposition was made to Hudson, by H. S. Allen, the lumberman. In accordance with this proposition Hudson proceeded to the lumber regions, after a short stay at Read's, and the following season returned with lumber for his warehouse, no doubt a moderate one, in which he conducted business until his death in 1843, in which year John Campbell arrived here. Hudson's widow married Louis Rocque, son of Augustin the younger.

Charles R. Read had come up the river from St. Louis in 1844, and took service with Messrs. Churchill and Nelson at Nelson's Landing, near the mouth of the Chippewa on the Wisconsin side. For the first year he was cook, afterward in charge of their business at Nelson's Landing, buying furs and trading with the Indians. In 1847 Mr. Read having secured permission from the United States authorities, crossed the river into Minnesota, rented the old Hudson warehouse from Louis Rocque, and opened trade. From that date the place has been known as Read's Landing. In 1849, Mr. Read built a new and larger warehouse. Thus after an interval of a quarter of a century the old trading-post began to be transmuted into a modern trading-post for whites and half-breeds, as well as natives. This change soon became more manifest and became distinctively a trade with the whites, but not without some opposition and at times the danger of sanguinary strife. The coming of Mr. Read to Minnesota soil, and his establishment of a trading-post for Indian traffic, was strongly opposed by Alexis Bailly, of Wabasha, who had been Indian trader at that point for some years, and was, by virtue of his early marriage relations with the Sioux chiefs, in condition to make his opposition felt.

When Mr. Read went to Fort Snelling to secure his license from the Indian agent at that point, he took steamer up the river. Wabasha had secured a numerously signed remonstrance against Read's securing government license, and this remonstrance was forwarded by United States mail on the same steamer with Read. This boat only went to Stillwater, and Read carried the mail (a small one, which he put in his pocket) on foot to Fort Snelling, a distance of twenty-six miles. Read handed his mail to the Indian agent, Col. Bruce, and at the same time his request for license as an Indian trader. The colonel opened the letter of remonstrance in Read's presence, told him the nature of its contents, and how difficult it would be for him, as agent of Indian affairs there, to overlook the remonstrance. Fortunately for Read, he had a friend at court in the person of post sutler Franklin Steele, and through his representations and influence the license was granted, and Read returned to the landing. He was allowed to pursue his business one year only in peace, when the opposition to his trading took definite form, and the Indians, instigated thereto, began to give him trouble. One day in June, 1848, Read was sitting on a log which he had been sawing for shingles, when a strapping Indian came up and, seating himself on the log, told Read he (Read) would have to leave there at once, that the tract he was on belonged to the half-breeds, and that he had no business there, and if he did not go they would make him. For reply Read raised his hand and, giving the Indian a hard back-handed



blow, knocked him off the log; at which the Indian took himself off. One evening in the following October, after supper, Read was sitting in his shanty, when he was surrounded by Little Crow, a chief of the Kaposia band of Sioux, and twelve of his braves. These Indians had been on a visit to Chief Wabasha, and it is supposed were instigated by him to get Read out of the way. These, with one exception, were all on horseback, and members of Little Crow's band; the Indian on foot was a member of Wabasha's band, and entering the cabin informed Read they had come to kill him, and clean him out. Read had learned that promptness in dealing with an Indian is the only strategy, and seizing a chair he felled the Indian to the floor, and set one of the legs through his upper lip, tearing it out, and four teeth with it. The savage sprang to his feet with a yell, and darted through the door, the blood spurting from his mouth. Read's blood was up, and he dared another one of them to enter his cabin at peril of his life. In the meantime, William Campbell, an educated half-breed Sioux, and warm friend of Read's, came up, and being informed of the trouble, armed himself with an axe, and taking sides with Read stood in the doorway, and told Little Crow he could only get at Read over his dead body. The prospect was not inviting, and Little Crow drew off his band, leaving Read in peace, and no further attempt to drive him away by force was resorted to. Upon the organization of the territory, the following year, 1849, Gov. Alexander Ramsay was requested to remove Read, on the ground of his being the cause of all the Indian disturbances in that region, and also because, as was alleged, he was selling liquor to the Indians. The investigation was ordered, and after a careful examination the charges were dismissed. All that could be substantiated was that Read had sold an empty barrel, formerly containing whiskey, to an Indian, who claimed that there was some whisky in the barrel at the time he purchased it. This was the last attempt to interfere with Read's trade at the landing; the following year other persons came, and the life of a solitary trader ended for him.

Charles R. Read from whom Read's Landing afterward derived its name, was an adventurous young Englishman, who at the early age of ten years crossed the seas with his brother's family and settled near the forks of the Chippewa River and the old Niagara peninsula. After some years spent in Canada, young Read left his brother's household and came over the lines into the United States. He was at Cleveland, Ohio, when the Canadian rebellion broke out in 1837, and the following year, though only seventeen years of age, enlisted in the American army of invasion for the liberation and annexation of Canada. This army crossed the frontier near Windsor, opposite Detroit, and after routing the Canadian militia and capturing the barracks at Amherstburg, were in turn routed by the British regulars under Gen. Erie, and Read, with many others, made prisoner. His devil-may-care appearance and youth won upon his captors, he was decently treated, and though tried and sentenced to be hung, was pardoned by the queen's clemency and returned to the United States in June, 1839. After five years' service in the American army in the Indian Territory and Texas, where he formed an acquaintance with the Indian character and habits that after stood him in good stead, young Read found himself at St. Louis in the summer of 1844, and from there was induced to come to this region.

Charles R. Read is often confused with the Reeds who were also active in this region in the fur trading days. James Reed was the father of Trempealeau, which for a while was known as Reed's Landing. One of his associates there was Antoine Reed. John Reed had a cabin and wood yard in Winona County below Dakota. Charles R. Read is the one who gave his name to Read's Landing in Wabasha County.

In 1850 Fordyce S. Richards, a native of Genesee County, New York, who had been at Prairie du Chien for some years, came to Read's Landing and opened trade with the Indians, also supplying the lumber camps up the Chippewa Valley.



## CHAPTER IX

### EARLY COURTS AND LAWYERS.

Alexander Ramsey, first territorial governor of Minnesota, arrived in St. Paul, May 27, 1849. June 1, of the same year, by proclamation, he declared the territory fully organized. June 11, he issued another proclamation, dividing the territory into three temporary judicial districts.

The first supreme court of the territory, appointed by the president, consisted of Aaron Goodrich, chief justice; and David Cooper and Bradley M. Meeker, associate justices. Each of these supreme court judges was to sit as district judge in one of the three judicial districts into which the territory had been divided.

David Cooper was assigned to the bench of the Third District. This district had rather vague outlines, but in general took in all of the southern part of the state, its southern boundary being the northern boundary of Iowa; its eastern and northern boundary being the Minnesota river; and the Mississippi river from the mouth of the Minnesota to the Iowa state line; and its western boundary being the western boundary of the territory.

Judge Cooper held the first court for the Third District at Mendota, August 27, 1849. Henry H. Sibley, afterward governor, was foreman of the grand jury. Judge Cooper, a gentleman of the old school, then but 28 years of age, delivered a most scholarly and finished charge, which for many years was quoted as an authority on the duties of jurors. He also delivered an address of a more personal nature to the lawyers assembled. No business was transacted by this court. It is said that of the members of the jury, only three could write their names, and that eleven could not understand the English language. The court was held in a large stone warehouse belonging to the fur company.

Before further terms of the court were held, the first territorial legislature convened. On October 27, 1849, the territory was divided into nine counties. Accordingly the judicial districts were arranged to conform to the new county divisions. Under the new arrangement the First District was made up of the counties of Washington, Wabasha and Itasca, these counties then embracing the eastern border of the territory. Judge Cooper was assigned to this district.

Under this division Judge Cooper held this second court at Stillwater in February, 1850. At this court the first murder trial in the territory was held, a thirteen year old boy being sentenced to ninety days in the guardhouse at Ft. Snelling for shooting a companion, the charge being manslaughter.

Aaron Goodrich was succeeded as chief justice by Jerome Fuller, who served from November 13, 1851, to December 16, 1852. Henry Z. Hayner, who served as chief justice from December 16, 1852, to April 7, 1853, never presided at a term of the supreme court.

April 7, 1853, William H. Welch was appointed chief justice, and Moses G. Sherburne and Andrew G. Chatfield, associate justices. Andrew G. Chatfield was assigned to the district south of the Minnesota and west of the Mississippi.

February 7, 1854, Goodhue (to which Wabasha County was attached for judicial purposes), Fillmore, Washington and Chisago Counties were constituted the First Judicial District, and assigned to Chief Justice W. H. Welch. Judge Welch served as chief justice of the supreme court, and as judge of the district embracing this county until May 24, 1858.

Since the admission of the state, May 11, 1858, Wabasha County has been in the Third Judicial District. The district originally included Houston, Olmsted, Fillmore, Wabasha and Winona counties. Since January 1, 1873, the district has included Winona, Wabasha and Olmsted counties.

Thomas Wilson took his seat on the bench May 24, 1858. July 1, 1864, having been appointed to the supreme court, he resigned, and Lloyd Barber was



appointed to fill the vacancy. Judge Barber served until January 1, 1872, when he was succeeded by C. N. Waterman. Judge Waterman died February 18, 1873, after a brief interval, in which F. M. Crosby of the First District was on the bench, John Van Dyke was appointed to fill the vacancy. William Mitchell took office January 8, 1874. The session of the legislature of 1881 increased the number of supreme court judges in this state from three to five, and Judge Mitchell was appointed to fill one of the two judgeships this created. Charles M. Start was accordingly appointed to the bench of the third district. He served from March 14, 1881, to January 7, 1895. O. B. Gould served from January 7, 1895, to January 5, 1897. A. H. Snow took office January 5, 1897.

In the winter of 1854 the village of Wabasha was designated, by legislative enactment as the county seat of Wabasha County. Alexis Bailly was chosen the first justice of the peace of the county, and an effort made to establish law and order.

The first term of the district court for the county was held in what was known as H. S. Allen & Co.'s warehouse, in the spring of 1856, William H. Welch presiding; S. L. Campbell, clerk; Blois S. Hurd, sheriff, and Thomas Wilson, of Winona, district attorney. No business of importance was transacted. The bar of the county was John McKee, J. W. Tyson and S. L. Campbell. No grand or petit jurors were in attendance, and after hearing a few motions and granting a few naturalization papers, court adjourned. At the next term of the district court there was a full attendance of jurors. Seventeen indictments were found, all of which were dismissed for irregularity. Samuel Cole was district attorney and J. W. Tyson acted as county attorney.

Alexis Bailly applied for admission to the bar as a qualified attorney, but failed to pass an examination. He was subsequently admitted at St. Paul. Being asked by one of the attorneys of the county how he managed to pass an examination, he replied that he had a bottle of champagne under each arm and two in his pockets, and nary a question was asked by the committee.

J. A. Criswell succeeded Alexis Bailly in the administration of the law, and was the principal judicial officer of the county, until it was organized for judicial purposes. Although his education was limited, he was an excellent judge of the law, having held the office of justice of the peace in Michigan and Minnesota for over twenty years. Seldom was one of his decisions reversed. He was a man of iron will and strong physical ability, which well fitted him for a frontier justice of the peace. The following incident will illustrate his manner of administering justice. At one time one of the leading physicians was before him, charged with an assault and battery upon one John Murray. During the trial the contestants engaged in a fisticuff, in which the learned justice immediately took a hand, sending each of the combatants to his respective corner. Saying as he did so, "I fine you \$20 each for fighting in my court, and you will pay it before you leave the room, or I will lick hell out of you." The doctor soon produced the \$20, but Murray could only find \$10. Criswell very generously remitted the balance, saying, "The fine goes to the poor, and I would like to see any one poorer than I am," as he chinked the money into his pocket.

The first attorneys to settle in the county and open offices were Frank Clark and John McKee.

The first term of the district court for Wabasha County, under the state organization, was held in what was then known as Hurd's Hall, in Wabasha, in the fall of 1858, Thos. Wilson, presiding; S. A. Kemp, clerk; John W. Tyson, district attorney; R. M. Piner, sheriff; Wm. J. Jacobs, foreman of the grand jury. There was quite a strong bar present: John N. Murdoch, John McKee, John W. Tyson and S. L. Campbell, resident attorneys of the county, with quite a number of outside attorneys in attendance. Among the most noted of these were William Windom and Charles H. Berry, of Winona, J. W. Brisbin, of St. Paul. Quite a number of civil cases were tried. Seventeen indictments were found by the grand jury, all of which was quashed on motion for informalities in the drawing of the indictments.



## CHAPTER X.

### EARLY PHYSICIANS.

The first physician in Wabasha County was Dr. M. Thurston, whose stay was brief. The first regularly graduated physician in the county was Dr. F. H. Milligan.

For two or three years he enjoyed the field alone, not only the whole of Wabasha County, but the whole region on both sides of the river, a territory almost equal to a New England state. In 1857 he left the county and located at Hastings, Dakota County, but returned to Wabasha in 1858.

In the winter of 1855-56, Dr. J. P. Bowen arrived on the ground and soon formed a copartnership with Dr. Milligan, which continued for a year. Dr. Bowen remained at Wabasha until the spring of 1859, when he left for a less severe climate.

In the year 1855 Dr. Geo. F. Childs and Dr. N. S. Teft located in the flourishing village of Minneiska, and continued in the practice of medicine, both in town and country, until 1860, when Dr. Childs went to Washington, D. C.; and Dr. Teft removed to Plainview, where he led an active and laborious life.

In the early spring of 1856 Dr. O. S. Lont took up a residence in Mazeppa. Of modest demeanor, genial and kindhearted, he did not claim to his compeers to be a graduate of any school.

In the summer of 1857 Dr. W. L. Lincoln commenced the practice of medicine in the city of Wabasha.

In 1857 Dr. Chauncy Gibbs, of Painesville, Ohio, worn out by the practice of his profession, to renew his failing health and if possible to prolong his life, removed to a farm on the beautiful prairie where now is Plainview. He did not contemplate the practice of his profession, but a noble soul can never know of suffering without offering relief, so he was again in the harness for a few short months.

The exact date is not obtained, but not far removed in point of time, Dr. C. C. Vilas located at Lake City, remaining a few years, and then removing to Michigan to return again to Lake City after the close of the war.

In 1860 Dr. Sheldon Brooks removed from Winona County to Minneiska; and while he gave a large share of his time to business, he practiced his profession as the occasion demanded his services, and so he may be well among the men who have contributed their share to give honor to the profession of Wabasha County.

The Wabasha County Medical Society was organized in 1869, at Lake City, which at that time had no physician. The first officers were: Dr. F. H. Milligan, president; Dr. E. C. Spaulding, of Lake City, secretary. The slip cut from the local weekly newspaper was clipped of its date. Dr. Spaulding was not engaged in the practice of medicine, but a newspaperman of Lake City. Dr. R. N. Murray, who was at this time engaged in the milling business, soon after this meeting entered upon a practice at Lake City. Dr. W. H. Spafford, of the same place, belonged to this organization until his death. Dr. Isaac J. Wells was also one of the charter members, as was Dr. P. C. Remondino, a graduate of Jefferson College, Philadelphia, but a convert to the tenets of Hahnemann.

Later members of the society during the first fifteen years of its existence were: 1869, Drs. J. P. Waste and N. S. Teft, of Plainview; 1870, Drs. F. Lessing, of Wabasha, and B. F. La Rue of Lake City; 1871, Dr. G. R. Patten, of Lake City and Dr. J. C. Adams (honorary); 1872, Dr. William L. Lincoln of Wabasha, and Dr. Bacon, of Mazeppa; 1875, Drs. J. P. Davis, of Kellogg, E. A. Tupper (a partner of Dr. Milligan), W. F. Adams, of Elgin, and Dr. Stone; 1876, Dr. F. W. Van Dyke; 1877, Dr. Low, of Wabasha; 1878, Dr. Charles W. Tinker, of Wabasha, 1883, Dr. Charles W. Crary and Dr. Curry.



## CHAPTER XI.

### PLAINVIEW VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP.

Plainview, the metropolis of Greenwood Prairie, is located in the town of the same name. It is a noted shipping center for the shipping of farm produce, a fact which makes the land in this vicinity sell at a higher price than any other rural land in the state. The village is well laid out, with broad streets, flourishing business houses, and comfortable homes surrounded with well kept lawns beautified with trees and shrubbery. The village has two banks, a good hotel, a flourishing newspaper, two elevators, several produce concerns, a creamery, a stock shipping association, a canning factory, a pickling station, and the usual business houses. The municipal improvements include a city hall, a public library, a projected park, waterworks and electric light service. The school is an excellent one, and adds much to the beauty of the village. Five churches are represented here, the German Lutheran, Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, Christian and Catholic. The leading fraternities and ladies' organizations also flourish here.

Plainview Village had its beginning in the spring of 1856, when J. Y. Blackwell, an Iowa lawyer, arrived with his family, and erected a structure, half logs, half boards, near the southeast corner of Broadway and Jefferson streets. Mr. Blackwell was a man of some means, and he saw the possibilities of making this point a stopping place for those traveling from Mississippi river landing places to the rich farm lands further south and east. Consequently he set about getting out timbers for a hotel. This building, which occupied the southwest corner of Broadway and Washington streets, the present site of the Plainview Hotel, was opened for the accommodation of the public July 4, 1856. Ozias Wilcox arrived that summer and bought from Hugh Wiley forty acres in section 8. On this property, directly north of the hotel, on the northwest corner of Broadway and Washington, he built a combined residence and store. David Von Wort put up a carpenter shop, and ————Bray and blacksmith shop. A few others, Edwin Chapman, Lloyd Yale, David Ackley and Dr. Federal C. Gibbs had land nearby, and Levi Ormsby had a claim shanty a half mile to the west. These named, some of whom were single, and a few of whom had their families with them, constituted the population of this immediate vicinity when the terrible winter of 1856-57 set in.

In November, 1856, came a terrific snow storm followed by other storms, and the snow lay some four feet deep on the level until the following April. In some places the snow sweeping over the prairies, found the little shacks their only obstruction, and buried them in a mountain of snow. Communication with the outside world was cut off, there was no news, no letters, no visitors, and few comforts. The people near the village were therefore decidedly better off than the scattered settlers in the more isolated cabins on the prairie, for they had the well stocked store of Mr. Wilcox from which to secure provisions. The winds sweeping around the corners of this building cleaned a small court about it, leaving sheer white walls, hard and icy, rising to the crust covered snow of the general level. Into this icy wall, steps were cut, giving means of entrance and exit to the court and the store until the warm weather of the next April enveloped the landscape in slush. This severity of the winter disheartened many of the people in the settlement. But the beautiful spring brought encouragement, many indeed lacked the means to try their fortunes elsewhere, and consequently but few of the settlers moved away. Mr. Blackwell, the first settler, however, shrank from the hardships of another winter, and after assisting in platting the village, disposed of his holdings and returned to Iowa. Other settlers, however, came in, and before another winter dawned, the little hamlet was materially increased.



The village was platted as Centerville in the summer of 1857 by J. Y. Blackwell, Ozias Wilcox, T. A. Thompson, Lloyd Yale and Federal C. Gibbs. Another Minnesota village having chosen that name, however, the cognomen of the new village was changed to Plainview, a name appropriate to its position on the watershed of the Zumbrota and Whitewater rivers.

For a time the village had a rival in Greenville, afterward Greenwood, two and a half miles east. But Greenville was within the limits of the Half-Breed Tract, land titles were somewhat uncertain, investors were not attracted, and after a while the discouraged promoters gave up the fight, and the business was transferred to Plainview.

In the next twenty years, Plainview became a place of considerable importance, as the shipping, banking and religious center of a rich farming community. No railroads connected the village with the outside world, the shipping and receiving points were towns on the Mississippi. But buyers brought grain here, a bank did a flourishing business, the stores kept a good stock of goods, the hotel did a thriving business, and the stage coach was always well filled with passengers to and from Plainview.

In 1877 came a tragedy which is still the subject of many exciting stories among the old settlers. On January 22 of that year, Frank Hathaway, aged 24, the son of a Highland Township farmer, shot and killed Nettie Slayton, who had refused to marry him. He immediately made an unsuccessful attempt to kill himself. Three days later he was taken from a room in the Plainview Hotel, and hanged to a tree in the back yard. The hanging was done by an orderly group of masked men, supposedly substantial citizens, and no effort was ever made to apprehend or punish them.

The railroad was completed to Plainview in 1878, and thus furnished a railroad outlet for the growing business of the village.

The special issue of the Plainview News of February 22, 1879, gives an excellent word picture of Plainview as it was a few months after the arrival of the railroad. The village had perhaps 900 people, although a hopeful estimate of 1,200 was made. It contained 176 comfortable residences, and 47 business houses. It had a railroad station, a graded school and a good postoffice. The churches were the Methodist Episcopal, the Congregational and the Christian. The lodges were Plainview Lodge, No. 16, I. O. O. F., organized December 26, 1866; Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., organized December 29, 1866; Plainview Lodge, No. 21, Ancient Order of United Workmen, organized August 18, 1877; and Plainview Society, Independent Order of Good Templars, organized in November, 1878. The first three met in the hall over F. J. Cornwall's store on Broadway, and the last met in the schoolhouse.

There were four physicians, Dr. N. S. Tefft, who commenced practicing on Greenwood Prairie from Minneiska, in 1856, and moved to Plainview in 1861; Dr. J. P. Waste, who located at Plainview in 1865; Dr. F. H. Roberts, a homeopath, who came to Minnesota in 1868 and engaged in practice in Plainview in 1871; and Dr. E. C. Davis, who engaged in practice in Plainview in 1876. Dr. M. E. Tabor, the only dentist, started practice in Plainview in 1874, the first of his profession to this village. There were two lawyers, H. P. Wilson, who came to Plainview in 1856, and J. F. Pope, who started practice here May 19, 1874. G. L. Robinson, not an admitted lawyer, also started a law and collection business in 1879. The two veterinarians were J. H. French and O. D. Curtis.

The Plainview Hotel, established in 1856, had been burned in 1877. It was immediately rebuilt by John Bigham, who had been its proprietor since 1868. The Plainview Bank was in the hands of Amerland & La Rue. It had been established in 1865.

Four general stores catered to the mercantile business. F. J. Cornwall started business with John Taylor in the spring of 1866 and became the sole owner in July, 1876. William Koenig started business in May, 1867. W. F.



Robinson succeeded J. R. McLaughlin in April, 1866. Whiting & Co. started in October, 1878, about the time of the building of the railroad. The hardware business was handled by C. C. Cornwall & Son, dating back to 1865 and Douglas & Co., dating back to 1876.

There were two drug stores, The Pioneer Drug Co., in the hands of Landon & Burchard since August, 1874, employed C. C. Clement, George Landon and A. French. The Little Drug Store, owned by P. A. Goddard and Co., the firm consisting of P. A. Goddard and Drs. Tefft and Waste, and employing George Pegley, was established by T. G. Bolton in April 1877. J. R. Watkins was manufacturing Dr. Ward's proprietary articles, as well as extracts and essences.

Julius Frickey, even at that time one of the oldest business houses in town, had been established as early as 1860. He did general harness making and dealt in leather goods. J. W. Reifkogel, engaged in the same line, established his business in 1871. John Thom, shoemaker and dealer, established himself in February, 1875, and Henry Hinz at about the same time. A. R. Nelson established his tailor shop in 1876, and J. Welshans not far from the same time.

Kellom & Company, established in January, 1868, and M. Lambie, who started in November, 1877, carried on the millinery business. B. F. Leininger first engaged in the jewelry business in 1870 and C. M. Allen engaged in the same line November 1, 1878. A. D. Wyant established a photograph gallery in March, 1876. T. J. Wadleigh & Son opened a furniture store in May, 1877.

The grocery business was handled by four concerns. Lawton Brothers, consisting of W. and I. P. Lawton, and employing C. S. Lawton, was established in November, 1867. Henry Potter opened his establishment in February, 1873. F. E. Dodge succeeded G. F. Gregg in February, 1879. C. A. Orr, who had a bakery in connection, started about 1878. There were two dealers in agricultural implements, John McArthur, established in 1873, and McLaughlin & Lynch, established in 1878.

The Brooks Brothers started buying wheat in December, 1876, their local representative being George McKinney. Whiting & Woodruff built their elevator in the late fall of 1878 at the time of the arrival of the railroad. Brooks Brothers also had a lumber yard in charge of George McKinney. T. G. Bolton, the other dealer, started about the time of the arrival of the railroad. The Plainview Flouring Mill was established in 1869 by C. T. Allaire, but in 1879 had passed into the hands of the Plainview Mill Co.

Ezra Feller established a livery business April 29, 1878. A. Davey started a billiard hall May 28, 1872, and C. C. Maxwell in August, 1877. Both sold fancy groceries in connection with their establishments. Weikel & Fedder established a meat market in 1862. Charles Welshans commenced barbering in Plainview August, 1872. Fitch & Abbott succeeded George Smith late in 1878.

Henry Horton, established in the fall of 1864; C. C. Maxwell established in August, 1866; B. R. Lee, established September 17, 1878, were conducting wagon-making shops. H. D. Adams, established in April, 1876, and George Stratton, were doing sign and carriage painting. Four blacksmiths were doing business, S. Purvis, J. Springer, A. Pomeroy and Hardy & Son, three of the concerns having started in 1865, and one, J. Springer, in March, 1876. Among the carpenters were Carroll & Clark, J. W. Marcyes, D. Z. Taylor and Abe Gaskill.

It is interesting to note that in 1919, the two leading mercantile concerns of that day are still in existence. The F. J. Cornwall & Co. store is managed by T. A. Askew, and the William Koenig has recently been succeeded by the Schad Mercantile Co. The harness business is in the hands of the same families, the two establishments being conducted by Albert J. Frickey and William Reifkogel. Nearly all the establishments are the direct successors of the establishments of 1879 but have changed hands.

Plainview was first incorporated as a village, in the spring of 1875. The first officers were E. B. Eddy, president; Charles Weld, Dr. J. P. Waste and



William Lawton, trustees; A. C. Cornwall, recorder; Rodman Burchard, treasurer; and A. B. W. Norton, justice of the peace. In 1878 the incorporation was abandoned in order that the village might vote with the township on the question of issuing bonds for the building of the railroad from Eyota to Plainview.

The village has two wells. The older well was drilled in 1895. It has an 8-inch diameter tube down to the rock, and then a 6-inch hole in the rick to the underlying sand strata. The average yield of water is 31 gallons a minute. The newer well was drilled in 1898. It has 60 feet of 12-inch casing to the lime rock, 300 feet of 10-inch casing through lime rock and loose sand, and an 8-inch drilled hole in blue sand rock. The total depth is 697 feet partly filled to a depth of about 50 feet through dropping cylinders and drop pike, to that the remaining depth is about 650 feet. The depth from the surface to the water is 240 feet. The capacity is 56.5 gallons a minute. The tank is of wood construction, elevated on an 80-foot steel tower. The tank has a mean diameter of 22 feet 9 inches, and a capacity of 60,000 gallons. The mains consist of some 25,000 feet of 4- and 6-inch pipes.

**Plainview State Bank** was established in 1865, and conducted as a private bank known as the "Eddy Bank" until 1878. From that year until 1884 it was known as the Henry Amerland Bank. In 1884 J. H. Davis, Jr., secured control and in 1885 erected the bank building, which in 1916 was enlarged and made to include the post office building. On July 1, 1906, it was incorporated with a capital of \$30,000, by E. L. Sylvester, G. F. Sylvester and Wilhelm Uecker, who were also the officers and directors. In 1908 A. S. Kennedy entered the bank as assistant cashier and in 1911 G. A. Stoltz also became assistant cashier. The institution is a member of the State Bankers' Association. A recent statement showed, in addition to its capital of \$30,000, surplus and profits of \$30,000, and deposits of about \$900,000.

**The First National Bank of Plainview** was incorporated May 14, 1902, by A. L. Ober, Joseph Underleak, F. G. Shumway, Geo. N. Wedge and Frank L. Meachum, who were also the first directors. A. L. Ober was president and F. G. Shumway cashier. The bank opened for business July 1, 1902. The building was purchased from A. F. Rockwell, hotel keeper, and was formerly used for a sample-room in connection with the hotel. A. L. Ober remained president until January 15, 1908, being followed by M. D. Fuller, who held the office to January 15, 1917, since which time J. I. Vermilya has filled it. F. G. Shumway was cashier to November 13, 1906; M. D. Fuller, November 13, 1906 to January 15, 1908; Amos Boie, January 15, 1908, to August 1, 1910; Matt T. Duerre, September 7, 1910, to January 13, 1920; Geo. H. Vermilya, January 13, 1920, to date. Vice-presidents: Andrew French, January 13, 1903, to January 9, 1906; J. J. Reiter, January 9, 1906, to January 15, 1910; James R. Wedge, January 15, 1910, to January 14, 1913; H. D. Wedge, January 14, 1913, to January 9, 1917; Miller T. Bolton, January 9, 1917, to March 10, 1920; Mead Vermilya, March 10, 1920, to the present time. Assistant cashiers: Ralph C. Wedge, January 13, 1903, for one year; W. W. Wedge, January 16, 1904, one year; Amos Boie, May 1, 1907, to January 15, 1908; Grover C. Tock, June 1, 1910, to March, 1914; John Fisk, July 18, 1914, to July 22, 1915; Geo. H. Vermilya, August 19, 1915, to January 13, 1920; Arthur W. Wempner, from January 13, 1920 to date. The First National is known as "The bank that gives personal service." It has a capital stock (incorporated) of \$25,000.00, and its statement of condition, issued February 28, 1920, showed a surplus and undivided profits of \$7,767.38, with deposits of \$350,028.40.

The excellent school system of Plainview dates back to 1858, when a school was established in David Van Wort's carpenter shop in the village. A young Vermonter named Hale was the teacher. The next schoolhouse was a small building which had previously been occupied as an office and drug store by Federal C. Gibbs. A school building was erected on the public square in 1867.



This was a two-story structure and cost about \$15,000. The school was then divided into five departments, High school, Grammar school, two Intermediates, and a Primary school.

The first newspaper ever issued in Plainview was the Plainview Enterprise, a half-patent, six-column folio, issued several weeks in the early part of 1864 for campaign purposes by N. E. and M. Stevens of Wabasha.

The Plainview News dates from Nov. 16, 1874, and was issued by T. G. Bolton. It was a six-column folio, printed at Wabasha, and issued monthly as an advertising medium for Mr. Bolton's drug business. F. A. Wilson became the proprietor in 1877, and issued the first weekly number April 18, 1877. Just how he counted Mr. Bolton's previous issues is somewhat uncertain, as the notable edition of Saturday, Feb. 22, 1879, of which a number of copies are still in existence, is designated Vol. 3, No. 8.

In June, 1877, the Plainview News printing office was established. April 1, 1878, H. J. Bryon purchased the paper and six months later sold a half interest to Ed. A. Paradis, who in April, 1882, became the sole proprietor.

**The Methodist Episcopal Church** of Plainview was organized about the year 1855-7, and the records of this organization that have been preserved go back to the year 1859. The first minister in charge was the Rev. O. P. Crawford, who was succeeded by the following in order: John Quigley, D. Kidder, and Benjamin Crist. The average pastorate of ministers during the early history of the church seemed to be two years. Among those who served the church as ministers in the early days, and who are still members of the Minnesota Conference, are the following: Rev. S. W. Rice, H. G. Bilbie, G. F. Wells, Peter Clare, Frank Cowgill and Alfred Cressy. The names of those who were first baptised in the church and recorded are Jeshua Davies and John B. Davies, baptised October 21, 1860, and on June 1, the following year, the names are recorded of Edwin L. Sylvester, Hattie Alice Sylvester, and Herbert Irving Yetter. Oliver P. Light was the officiating minister and the witnesses were G. W. Sylvester and E. L. Ball. The names of a large number of the old settlers appear, most of whom have been called to the other world. The first names to appear on the record as members of the church are Hiram Allen and Phobe Allen, the former was a local deacon. One of the first class leaders was George W. Sylvester. The name of S. McLaughlin also appears as one of the early class leaders. The oldest member of the church died on May 12, 1920, Mrs. Jane Rock, who was in her ninety-third year and had been a member of the church for more than fifty years. In the record of marriages the names of Andrew G. Crawford and Maria A. Baston appear, the parties being united by the Rev. Ezra Trecker, Nov. 14, 1860. It is evident that Plainview was a large circuit during the early days of its history, as the preachers traveled over quite a territory and record many places at which they conducted services. The church was built in the year 1860 but was remodeled, and a large additional front added during the ministry of the Rev. W. M. Gillies. There are six memorial windows in this commodious structure as a tribute to the memories, respectively, of Mrs. T. G. Bolton, Arthur J. Carrol, James Lynch, Samuel McLaughlin, Rev. W. M. Gillis, and The Van Dyke Chapter of the Epworth League. The remodeled building was dedicated in 1894. The present parsonage was built in the year 1890 and both buildings are located on Jefferson Street, S. W., and just one block from Main Street. The church is one of the oldest landmarks of this old community. It has had a great history, and some of its members have entered into Christian work in other places, and some are mistresses in Methodist parsonages in other fields of labor. Miss Mary Bolton, an active member in the church, served as superintendent at the Grenoble Orphanage in France in 1919-20. She will return in the fall of 1920 to take up her duties in the same home. A Service Flag with 31 stars, 3 of which were gold, was taken down July 4. The Bolton family have been earnest workers in the church for many years, and Mr. T. G. Bolton, who passed away in 1917,



was a member of the official board for many years. The oldest living member of the church is Mrs. Orrilla Colby, who is in her eighty-second year, and has been an active member of the church since 1870. The Horns, Washburns, Woods, Beltons, Hassags, the La Craft and Carlton families, the Rocks, and others well known in this community have proved loyal and faithful workers, and many are still in the marching ranks. The present pastor of this historical church is the Rev. R. Prescott.

**The Plainview Congregational Church.**—The first services of this church were held in the building known as the Wilcox Hall, and were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Cochrane of Elgin. The church was organized on Wednesday, October 7, 1863, by a council assembled at the schoolhouse and composed of the following persons: Rev. C. Shedd, minister of Mantorville; Rev. Yoth, delegate from St. Charles; R. C. Stillman, delegate from Elgin; I. C. Stearns, delegate from Zumbrota; Rev. D. Burt, minister from Winona; Rev. L. N. Woodruff, minister from Wabasha; O. Pendleton, delegate from Wabasha; also the Rev. Cochrane, Elgin, and Rev. Mr. Morgan. Eleven males and seventeen females were included in the organization. Baptism was administered to Emma, infant daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Williard, by Rev. Mr. Shedd of Mantorville. The charter members were: Rev. Henry Williard, Mrs. J. W. Williard, Jeremiah Baldwin, Alfred Brown, Maria N. Brown, N. T. Manly, Mary L. Manly, Charles J. Manly, Ellen Manly, S. H. Gaylord, Mary E. Gaylord, Geo. W. Doeg, William Rcome, William R. Davis, Margaret E. Brown, Mary Needham, Anna Burton, Esther E. Truesdale, Mrs. Esther A. Washburn, Emeline S. Whitney, Rebecca McCarty, James Washburn, Mrs. Kate Washburn, Asa Y. Felton, Mrs. Lucy M. Osgood, Esther A. Burchard and Eliza Gilpin. Among the prominent members and workers during the early years of the church's history were: Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Stillma, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Landon, Mr. and Mrs. A. Y. Felton, Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. Selden Washburn, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Burchard, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Washburn, and W. A. Pell. The church edifice was built in 1871 on Main Street, on the corner interesectioning with Church Street, and was dedicated September 28 the same year. Its seating capacity is about 400. It cost \$7,000, a large part of which was donated by Rev. Henry Williard, who was the first pastor and remained for 17 years. Mr. Williard was ordained in 1858; installed pastor of the Plainview church in 1863; resigned June 1, 1880, and died June 24, 1904. The succeeding pastors have been as follows: Rev. George E. Freeman, 1880 to 1883; Rev. Sidney K. Perkins, 1883 to 1885; Rev. J. B. Renshaw, December, 1885, to May, 1890; Rev. A. L. P. Loomis, September 1, 1890, to April 1, 1895; Rev. A. J. Williams, June, 1895, to April 1, 1897; Rev. Frank J. Brown, October, 1897, to August 1, 1899; Rev. Frank H. Anderson, 1900 to 1903; Rev. A. D. Adams, 1903 to June, 1905; Rev. W. E. Griffith, July, 1905, to November, 1908; Rev. H. C. Todd, 1909 to 1916; Rev. J. L. Jones, 1916 to April, 1920; Rev. Mr. Osborn, July 1, 1920, to the present time. The first parsonage was built in 1885 and occupied successively by the Rev. Renshaw, Loomis, Williams and Brown. It was then sold and one erected on the church lot in the year 1900. The present membership of the church is 160; that of the Sunday school 125.

**The Church of Christ in Plainview, Minn.,** was organized by Bro. Abraham Shoemaker in the fall of 1861. The following were charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Shoemaker, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Freer, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Ackley, Mrs. Hiram Butts and Mrs. James Butts. Of these so far as is known only Mrs. Shoemaker survives and resides with Mrs. James Dwiggins, R. F. D., Mankato, Minn. At first services were held in what was known as Wilcox Hall, situated on the corner of Broadway and Jefferson Streets. Later arrangements were made to use the schoolhouse on Sundays. This was Plainview's first school building. In 1866 the congregation purchased the school building and moved it a little to the south of Meachim's mill, or about where the present C. & N. W. depot stands. In June, 1883, when the railroad



was constructed, the lot was sold to the R. R. Co. and the present church site was purchased and the Chapel, as it was known, was moved thereon. (I am not sure about that date—some say it was in 1878.) The Chapel served as the meeting house for the church until 1895. At that time plans were set on foot and successfully carried out whereby the present house of worship was erected. Final payments were made on this building January 7, 1902. The Chapel was then remodeled for a parsonage and the minister, C. W. Martz, bought it, with part of the church lot, from the church. It later was sold to other parties. In 1918, during the pastorate of Harry J. Hill, the congregation repurchased the former Chapel. During the same year it was made over into a thoroughly modern house for use as a parsonage. So today the roof, walls and main floor of the parsonage of the Church of Christ enclose what was once Plainview's first school building and the first house of worship of the congregation of the church mentioned.

In 1874 the Church of Christ was given a charter of incorporation. The following is a copy of the proceedings:

"We do hereby certify that at a meeting held at the chapel, in the town of Plainview in the county of Wabasha and the state of Minnesota, on the 21st day of July, 1874, in accordance with notice given 15 days previous thereto, for the purpose of Organizing and Incorporating a 'Society for Divine Worship,' to be known and designated by the name of 'Christian Church,' John Truax was duly elected president of said meeting and Dwight Leach was elected secretary thereof. The said president and secretary received the votes of, determined the qualifications of voters, etc. We do further certify that the following named persons were elected at said meeting as trustees of the 'Christian Church': Class 1st, Daniel Clough and S. M. Stockwell to serve one year; J. R. Watkins and Henry Horton, Class 2d, to serve two years; and W. W. Freer, Dwight Leach and E. Clough, Class 3d, to serve three years.

"In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seal this 28th day of July, A. D. 1874, in the presence of A. B. W. Norton, Justice of Peace, and C. T. Allaire, witnesses.

"Signed—John Truax and Dwight Leach.

"Acknowledged before A. B. W. Norton, Justice of Peace, August 4, 1874."

The pastors of the Church of Christ have been as follows: Abraham Shoemaker, 1861, 1862, 1863; A. P. Frost (late of Winona); B. U. Watkins (late of Winona); James A. Denton; John Truax, 1873-1874; Joseph Harrison, 1874-1875; E. T. C. Bennett, 1875-1879; John A. Grice; J. Carroll Stark; Hugh Morrison; H. D. Williams, 1892-1893; Melvin Menges, 1893-1894; C. W. Martz, 1896; Ernest Thornquist, 1896-1897; T. E. Utterback, 1898-1899; G. U. Wise, 1902-1903; G. R. Morgan, 1904; J. M. Dixon, 1905; Mr. Wilson, 1906; H. F. Barstow, 1907; B. L. Hoffman, 1915-1917; H. J. Hill, 1917-192—.

The following is a list of evangelists for this church: T. T. Vandolah, 1863; S. Johnson, 1864; Mr. Taylor, 1865; Mr. Lotz, 1867; Morrison & Sons, 1868; H. A. Foster, 1894; H. D. Williams, 1892; H. D. Williams and Mr. Harves, 1893; T. E. Utterback, 1898-1899; Mr. Divine, 1902; Atwood and Gardner, 1905; C. B. Osgood, 1906; J. M. Irwin and wife, 1904; J. H. Bicknell, 1905; J. M. Elam; E. Clutter and wife, 1910; Hugh Cooper, 1915; Crayton S. Brooks, 1916-1917; H. J. Hill, 1917; C. B. Osgood, 1919; M. M. Moss, 1920.

Some of those who conducted services on Lord's Days in the absence of pastors were: Elders Joseph Sands, W. W. Freer, S. M. Stockwell, J. R. Watkins and D. D. Clough. Some former organists were: Hortense Freer, Alida McGee, Nellie Lamprey and Tena Underwood. The pulpit desk still in use was made by Elder S. M. Stockwell more than 50 years ago.

**Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel's Church**, of Plainview, belonging to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states, was organized in 1875, after the first services had been held in the Church of Christ, in the previous year, by Rev. Mr. Sipple. The first church edifice was erected



and dedicated on East Broadway in 1890. In 1889 a parsonage was built. In 1915 a new church was erected on the same lot and dedicated March 26, 1916. The new church is built of Indiana brick, and has a seating capacity of 500. It is provided with a full basement, containing the steam heating plant, kitchen and dining-room, the last mentioned being capable of seating from 300 to 400 at a time. There is also a ladies' rest room off from the main auditorium. The church was erected at an expense of \$25,000. The Rev. Mr. Sipple, the first pastor, was succeeded by the Rev. Stuelpnagel, and the latter by the Rev. Schaaf, the pastor from 1901 to 1920 being the Rev. G. Drews.

**St. Joachim's Catholic Church.**—In 1887 Rev. P. B. Murray came to Plainview and found a few scattered Catholic families. With some assistance from them and the citizens of the village, the good priest erected a small frame church over which he presided as pastor until the year 1900, when he resigned owing to ill health. Rev. John Parkinson then took charge of the parish, which had increased so rapidly that the church was enlarged to accommodate the members. The people purchased a new parsonage for their pastor, who gave them zealous care for nine years, when he took another parish in Winona. In 1909 Rev. D. J. Lavery was assigned to the parish, which now became so large as to need a larger church. In 1911 a fine brick edifice was erected accommodating nearly 600 people, and in 1918 the people erected a large beautiful parish residence. The total value of the property today is placed at \$80,000, and the congregation numbers 700 souls. This makes the parish of St. Joachim one of the finest in the diocese of Winona, and its new church one of the most beautiful. It is a brick structure of Gothic architecture and is trimmed with white cut stone that gives it an attractive appearance. The facade is surmounted by twin towers that lend to the edifice massiveness and sublimity. The church will seat 600 people. The interior is striking in its elgance and design. The ceiling is of Gothic effect, being 30 feet high in nave, transept and sanctuary, and 20 feet high in the side aisles. The sanctuary is 28 feet wide with a depth of 26 feet and is adorned with a handsome Gothic altar. The transept is 64 feet wide and is lighted by two large rose windows, one of which was donated in loving memory to the late Father Murray by his friends in the parish; the other large window was the generous gift to St. Joachim's of the Wabasha Council of K. of C's. for which the parish feels very grateful. Another large window which was presented by the members of the Choir stands over the gallery, while six smaller art windows, presented by members of the parish adorn the walls of the nave. The art windows are rich in color and most beautiful in design. While they serve to lend adornment to the interior of the church, they allow sufficient light and warmth of the sun to enter to dispel the gloom and darkness that are so often found at mid-day in nearly all of the large churches where light, the obvious purpose of windows, is sacrificed for art. The new Stations of the Cross which were donated from members of the parish are of Gothic design and set in high relief and are richly colored. They are most beautiful. On the right of the sanctuary is the vestry and on the left is a beautiful chapel that will seat forty persons. The new church in its exterior and interior is beautiful and attractive, its proportions being exact and striking in every detail. Situate on an immense facing on West Broadway, it rises, strong and massive, the gilded crosses overtowering the city and wide stretching landscape. This Christian temple is the gift to Almighty God of generous hands and loving hearts, a monument, majestic and sublime, revealing the abundant store of Divine Faith and Love in the hearts of the good people of St. Joachim's.

**Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M., Plainview, Minn.**—The first meeting of Illustrious Lodge U. D. was held January 18, 1867, in Van Wert's Hall. Those present were F. A. Wells, W. M.; H. A. Wells, S. W.; Jas. Lynch, J. W.; Augustus Smith, Treas.; S. N. Wright, Secy.; E. C. Gearey, S. D.; I. B. Pope, J. D.; G. W. Harrington, Tyler. These members of the "craft" continued their



work throughout the next several months, conferring the degrees on the following: W. H. Stone, D. Van Wert, E. S. Case, F. Trace, D. R. Case, O. Wilcox, D. D. Brown, Dr. J. P. Waste, Jas. McHench, W. W. Case, M. W. Benscholter, W. S. Baxter, C. A. Baxter, G. W. Colby, C. W. Sargent, S. Stanley, L. M. Gregg, J. R. McLaughlin, C. O. Landon, Milton Smith, Thos. Crossen and S. L. McCarty. The Grand Lodge of Minnesota granted a Charter to Illustrious Lodge No. 63 on October 23, 1867, the above 30 being the Charter members. At the first regular meeting of Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, held Dec. 20, 1867, when their Charter was presented by the Grand Officers, B. A. Jones, D. G. M.; S. R. Merrill, G. S. W.; and W. W. Scott, G. S. D.; the following were installed as officers for the ensuing year: F. A. Wells, W. M.; H. A. Wells, S. W.; Jas. Lynch, J. W.; A. Smith, Treas.; C. S. Case, Secy.; E. C. Gearey, S. D.; I. B. Pope, J. D.; D. Van Wert, Tyler. Van Wert's Hall was found too small for the meetings and one of the second-story rooms of the new public school building was rented and equipped, which was shared for some time with the I. O. O. F. Lodge, which was organized a year before the Masonic Lodge. In the course of time these two orders rented and equipped a lodge room over the F. J. Cornwell store. A few years later the Masons moved to new quarters in the Weikel building, where they continued until 1906, when they moved to the second floor of the E. R. Cornwell building, now owned by R. E. Murray. Here they have very comfortable and well equipped quarters but they are being outgrown and plans are now being agitated for the building of a Masonic Temple, the lodge having a membership of 130 and the Eastern Star a membership of 150. Illustrious Lodge has always been a healthy and growing organization with a membership of the leading and most progressive men in Plainview and vicinity. During the late war, the Lodge Service Flag contained nineteen stars, showing that 19 of its members were in the Country's service. Two of these stars were of gold in honor of Byrl Sylvester and Thaddius Davey who gave their all in their country's service. Although the Lodge is saddened in the loss of these two members, it nevertheless rejoices in the fact that its worthy members were among the very first to go forth to battle for the great wrongs heaped upon Humanity by the Old World Autocracy. On June 10, 1920, a program was carried out in honor of Chas. W. Donaldson's fiftieth anniversary as a Mason and member of this Lodge, he having been made a Mason in Illustrious Lodge on June 10, 1870. On this pleasant occasion, Dr. W. A. Allen of Rochester was present, he having been made a Mason in the same lodge on Sept. 30, 1870. Since Illustrious Lodge No. 63 was organized, the following members have held the office of Master: F. A. Wells, E. C. Gearey, D. D. Brown, Augustus Smith, E. S. Case, Jas. McHench, H. A. Wells, H. R. Gearey, J. F. Pope, Geo. R. Hall, Dr. E. S. Cobb, H. D. Wedge, G. F. Sylvester, F. L. Gilbert, J. F. Thompson, A. C. Cornwell, Dr. E. E. Smith, W. G. Mack, Dr. E. A. French, B. E. Rohweder, F. W. E. Petrich, Dr. W. H. Whitcomb, Dr. T. J. Moore, C. L. Waterman. The present officers (1920) are: Dr. T. J. Moore, W. M.; Glenn I. Mack, S. W.; H. H. Nichols, J. W.; W. G. Mack, Treas.; A. C. Cornwell, Secy.; Thos. A. Askew, Jr., S. D.; Fred Foreman, J. D.; Geo. W. Purvis, Tyler.

**Plainview Chapter, No. 184, O. E. S.**—Plainview Chapter, U. D., was organized August 23, 1905, with the following officers: Mary P. Shumway, W. M.; Dr. E. E. Smith, W. P.; Tattie E. Cornwell, A. M.; A. A. Marshall, Treas.; Lee T. Meachum, Secy.; Mabel Ross, Cond.; Vera Burchard, A. Cond.; Millie C. Carley, Warden; John N. Ross, Sent.; Electa A. Hall, Chaplain; Myrtle Bush, Ada; Lillian Washburn, Ruth; Margaret Rockwell, Esther; Inez M. Meachum, Martha, Maude Cornwell, Electa; Ethel M. Austin, Organist; M. E. Jenks, Marshall. On the evening of June 8th, 1906, the Worthy Grand Matron, Evelyn Yeuld, was present and constituted Plainview Chapter, No. 184, under the laws of the Grand Chapter of the O. E. S. of Minnesota and presented to the organization its charter. The following officers were then installed for the balance of the year: Mary P. Shumway, W. M.; Dr. E. E. Smith, W. P.; Hattie E. Corn-



well, A. M.; A. A. Marshall, Treas.; Lee T. Meachum, Secy.; Mabel Ross, Cond.; Vera Burchard, A. Cond.; Mollie C. Carley, Warden; J. N. Ross, Sent.; Electa A. Hall, Chap.; Myrtle Bush, Ada; Lillian Washburn, Ruth; Sunnie Marshall, Esther; Inez M. Meachum, Martha; Frances Cornwell, Electa; Ethel M. Austin, Organist; M. E. Jenks, Marshall. Plainview Chapter has been guided by efficient officers and a loyal membership so that the growth has been steady and large in these few years and now shows a membership of 150. This large membership, like that of the Masonic Lodge, finds the present quarters too small for the many social functions and degree work which it carries on. The members are alive to the plans for a future home where these two organizations may enjoy the comforts of which they are worthy. Those who have filled the office of Worthy Matron to the present time are Mary P. Shumway, Hattie E. Cornwell, M. Estella Manchester, Mary Smith, Myrtle Bush, Claire Phillips, Agnes Smith, Sallie Murrison, Eva Moore, and Maud Mack. The following members have filled the office of Worthy Patron during the same period: Dr. E. E. Smith, A. C. Cornwell, E. L. Sylvester, M. J. Manchester, B. E. Rohweder, W. G. Mack, and C. L. Waterman. The present officers (1920) are: Maud Mack, W. M.; E. L. Sylvester, W. P.; Jennie Waterman, A. M.; G. F. Sylvester, Treas.; M. Estella Manchester, Secy.; Maud Nunamaker, Cond.; Harriet Richmond, A. Cond.

**Plainview Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M.**, was organized October 10, 1882, with the following charter members: H. C. Woodruff, Augustus Smith, C. E. Daniels, F. A. Wells, James A. McCarty, D. McCarty, Ezra Fellar, F. L. Meachum, and Robert Wahler. The first officers were: H. C. Woodruff, M. E. H. P.; Augustus Smith, E. K.; C. E. Daniels, C. S.; Milton Smith, treasurer; E. C. Gearey, secretary; Henry D. Wedge, C. H.; D. McCarty, R. A. C.; F. A. Wells, P. S.; E. R. Cornwall, M. of the 1st Veil; James McCarty, M. of the 2nd Veil; F. L. Meachum, M. of the 3rd Veil; Robert Vickery, sentinel. The chapter surrendered its charter November 6, 1894. The officers at the time of the surrender were: Augustus Smith, H. P.; D. D. Harrington, K.; Dr. J. P. Waste, S.; E. R. Cornwell, C. H.; F. A. Welles, P. S.; Geo. R. Hall, R. A. C.; Milton Smith, Treas.; F. L. Meachum, Secy.; W. Lawton, G. M. 3rd V.; Geo. C. Landon, G. M. 2nd V.; H. C. Wedge, G. M. 3rd V.; J. W. Mallory, Sentinel.

**Plainview Lodge, No. 16, I. O. O. F.**, was organized December 29, 1866. The charter members, David Van Wert, Wm. L. Cleaveland, W. W. Case, and Ferdinand Trace, and the first officers were: W. A. Allen, N. G.; John Simpson, V. G.; D. Van Wert, secretary; S. N. Wright, treasurer; W. L. Cleaveland, constable; W. W. Case, warden; E. B. Eddy, R. S. N. G.; W. H. Stone, L. S. N. G.; F. Trace, I. G.; J. Huntoon, O. G.; John Valentine, R. S. V. G.; A. Pomeroy, L. S. V. G.; T. A. Thompson, R. S. S.; J. J. Butts, L. S. S.

**Abigail Burnham Chapter, D. A. R.**, of Plainview was organized in March, 1908. The charter members were: Regent, Anna Tripple (Mrs. William E.) Griffith; secretary, Miss Agnes Colvin (Mrs. E. E. Smith); treasurer, Miss Francis Cornwell (Mrs. Chas. DeWitt); historian, Miss Elsie I. Burnham; registrar, Mary Chamberlin (Mrs. J. A.) Carley; Myrtle Mallory (Mrs. M. T.) Bolton, Adel Burchard (Mrs. E. R.) Cornwell, Miss Maude Cornwell, Margaret Burnham (Mrs. J. H.) Eggers, Jr., Grace Laudon (Mrs. B. C.) Fish, Florence Cornwell (Mrs. B. E.) Rohweder, Zula Burchard (Mrs. J. A.) Slocumb. The first board of managers consisted of Mrs. Rohweder, Mrs. Eggers, Mrs. Slocumb, Miss Cornwell, Mrs. Bolton. Later members have been: Ellen Wedge (Mrs. E. E.) Mallory, Eva Wedge (Mrs. Eva) Colvin, Isabelle Chesebro (Mrs. J. R.) Wedge, Mary Etta Gaylord (Mrs. A. D.) Posz, Maude Marshall (Mrs. W. G.) Mack, Harriet Marshall (Mrs. C. E.) Richmond, Miss Anna Gaylord, Miss Thedora Gaylord. The present officers are: regent, Marry Etta Gaylord (Mrs. A. D.) Posz; vice-regent, Margaret Burnham (Mrs. J. H.) Eggers, Jr.; secretary, Mary Chamberlin (Mrs. J. A.) Charley; treasurer, Isabelle Chesebro (Mrs. J. R.) Wedge; historian, Zula Burchord (Mrs. J. A. Slocumb; registrar, Agnes



Colvin (Mrs. E. E.) Smith. The chapter is named from Abigail Collins Burnham, wife of Major John Burnham, who served throughout the entire Revolutionary War without a furlough or leave of absence, and was a personal friend of Washington and LaFayette. The chapter has been active in all patriotic work. In the schools it has fostered Americanism by introducing the flag drill and by giving prizes for work done in the U. S. History classes. The public library has been furnished with excellent pictures of George and Martha Washington. As a part of the state work the chapter has repaired the side porch of the old Sibley House at Mendota. During the war, the members did their full duty as individuals and as a chapter, making generous contributions of money, sending knitted garments to the soldiers, and furnishing jelly to the hospital at St. Paul.

Telephone service on Greenwood Prairie had its beginning in the middle nineties, when Dr. Edwin S. Muir, then a practicing physician of Plainview, constructed a line from his office in Plainview to the Pottsdam Store, at Pottsdam, in Olmsted County, a distance of eight and a half miles. Its purpose was to place the physician in touch with his patients in the vicinity of Pottsdam.

As the outgrowth of this line, the Plainview Telephone Co. was organized by Dr. Edwin S. Muir, George C. Landon, Helen Patton and others. This company was a branch of the Dwelle Telephone Co. of Lake City. It had a local exchange at Plainview, with lines extending about the village and into the surrounding rural districts. Connection was had with the Tri-State Telephone Co. at Wabasha, and thus the people of Plainview were placed in touch with the toll service of that company.

The Greenwood Prairie Telephone Co. was incorporated February 8, 1902, by Andrew French, F. D. Washburn, W. T. Lee, I. A. Grove, L. E. Ryan, Frank Appel and A. F. Hanneman, all of Plainview and vicinity. The first officers were Andrew French, president; W. T. Lee, vice-president; F. D. Washburn, treasurer; I. A. Grove, secretary and general manager. The company was started with an authorized capital of \$25,000 and a paid-up capital of \$1,500. An exchange was established at Plainview, with lines radiating into the surrounding country. Mr. Grove was succeeded as secretary and general manager by Andrew French. In 1905 the authorized capital was increased to \$50,000. In 1906 the Elgin Telephone Co. was purchased. Through the purchase of this company toll line connections were established at Rochester with the Northwestern Telephone Co. In 1907, the company purchased the Plainview Telephone Co. This gave the company control not only of its competing local exchange in Plainview, but also of a line to Wabasha. Two years later, in 1909, James A. Carley, who had been a director of the company since 1903, purchased a controlling interest and has since been secretary and general manager. In 1912 long distance connection was had with both the Tri-State and the Northwestern Telephone Co.'s. The Plainview company was thus the first in the southern part of the state to have toll-line connection with both the Tri-State and the Northwestern Companies.

The company now has toll line connections at St. Charles, Rochester, Eyota, Wabasha and Kellogg. It has local exchanges at Plainview, Elgin and Millville. It also has lines running into the St. Charles exchange. More than 1,100 phones are in use, and the lines embrace more than 1,681 miles of wire. The reports show that in 1918 the average number of toll calls monthly was 6,300 and the average number of local calls monthly 82,660. In the winter some 12 people are employed, with an increase of linemen in the summer months. The annual receipts of the company are about \$25,000. The valuation of the property is placed at \$122,838.65. The sum of \$25,754.22 has been set aside for repairs, and there is a surplus of \$31,129.52. Practically every farm house within the area served by the company is now provided with a telephone, and has been for the past five years. Service has been available for practically every farm house since 1912. In addition to its lines and equipment, the com-









Standing, left to right—Dean Harrington, Mrs. Dave Wentworth, F. D. Washburn, Mrs. Orin Wood, C. D. Burchard. Sitting, left to right—H. T. Washburn, Mrs. E. L. Burton, Mrs. E. R. Cornwell.



pany owns a sightly building at Elgin, erected in 1916. The exchange at Plainview is located in a building owned by James A. Carley. The officers of the company are: President, Mary C. Carley; vice-president and treasurer, E. L. Sylvester; secretary and general manager, James A. Carley.

**The Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers' Association** was organized February 6, 1877. H. P. Wildos was temporary chairman and Samuel B. Evans temporary secretary. The original name was "The Old Settlers' Union of the Southeastern Portion of Wabasha County and Vicinity," and the membership was confined to those settling here previous to January 1, 1858, together with their wives and husbands. The annual meeting was to be held in February. The constitution and by-laws were adopted February 28, 1877, with Dr. N. S. Tefft in the chair and R. C. Stillman as secretary. February 16, 1900, it was decided that any one having lived on Greenwood Prairie forty years should be eligible to membership. The following have been the officers of the association: Presidents: 1877 and 1878, Dr. N. S. Tefft, 1879, George Bryant, 1880, 1881, 1882 and 1883, A. P. Foster; 1884, T. A. Thompson; 1885, G. R. Hall; 1886, G. W. Harrington; 1887, 1888 and 1889, T. G. Bolton; 1890 and 1891, R. C. Stillman; 1892 and 1893, F. L. Meachum; 1894, 1895, 1896 and 1897, Frank D. Washburn; 1898, Dr. N. S. Tefft; 1899, C. D. Burchard; 1900 to 1907, inclusive, G. F. Sylvester; 1908 and 1909, D. D. Harrington; 1910 to the present, Frank D. Washburn. Vice-presidents: 1877, George Farrer; 1878, I. W. Rollins; 1879, Joseph Richardson; 1880, 1881 and 1882, R. C. Stillman; 1883 and 1884, Dr. N. S. Tefft; 1885, G. W. Harrington; 1886, John Gage; 1887, 1888 and 1889, George R. Hall; 1890 and 1891, C. O. White; 1892, George R. Hall; 1893, C. D. Burchard; 1894, George R. Hall; 1895, E. L. Sylvester; 1896 and 1897, George Gage; 1898, Mrs. P. C. Wood; 1899 to 1907, inclusive, D. D. Harrington; 1908 and 1909, George W. French; 1910, T. G. Bolton; 1911, W. P. Baldwin; 1912, 1913 and 1914, J. I. Vermilya; 1915, A. J. McRay; 1916, M. J. Horn; 1917 to the present, C. R. Grieve. Secretaries: 1877, T. A. Thompson; 1878, H. P. Williams; 1879, John W. Bryant; 1880, 1881 and 1882, T. G. Bolton; 1883, 1884 and 1885, C. D. Burchard; 1886, 1887 and 1888, R. C. Stillman; 1899, C. D. Burchard; 1890 and 1891, D. D. Harrington; 1892 and 1893, E. L. Sylvester; 1894, C. D. Burchard; 1895 and 1896, W. H. H. Pope; 1897, 1898 and 1899, George R. Hall; 1900 to 1907, inclusive, T. G. Bolton; 1908 to the present, E. L. Sylvester. Treasurers: 1877 and 1878, E. B. Eddy; 1879, George Farrar; 1880, H. P. Willson; 1881 to 1884, inclusive, George W. Harrington; 1885, Dr. N. S. Tefft; 1886 to 1889, inclusive, F. L. Meachum; 1890 and 1891, E. L. Sylvester; 1892 to 1895, inclusive, D. D. Harrington; 1896, 1897 and 1898, E. L. Sylvester; 1899 to 1907, inclusive, Frank D. Washburn; 1908 to the present, Judson T. Wentworth. Much credit for information in this history is due to talks delivered at the Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers' meetings by A. P. Foster, R. C. Stillman, G. W. Harrington, T. G. Bolton and I. W. Rollins.

**Plainview Poultry Association.**—The Plainview Poultry Association was organized in 1913 by about 25 persons who were desirous of advancing the poultry interests in the community by raising more and better poultry. Since their organization was launched, they have held a poultry show every year and one only need attend these exhibitions to realize the advancement that has been made in the breeding and raising of pure bred poultry.

The first show held was small and the poultry exhibited was of an inferior grade which could not be accepted in the present shows. The show was a stimulus which made each exhibitor eager to do better the next season with the result that the poultry now shown by our local breeders is of the highest class and many of these same birds win in the larger shows held in the Northwest. It is truly remarkable what such an organization can do in a few years for the advancement of the industry. This work has spread throughout the community so that many of our farmers have as fine flocks of pure bred poultry as can be found anywhere. Those having benefited from this knowledge realize



the advantage in raising standard bred poultry, for it is more pleasure to work with high class fowls and the monetary return for eggs and meat is far greater. This organization has been the means of starting a work that will be of great value to the community for years to come.

The present officers of the association are Dr. E. E. Smith, Pres.; C. H. Ritter, Vice-Pres.; G. F. Sylvester, Treas.; L. F. Appleby, Sec'y, who with Henry Osborne, Martin Schwartz, E. R. Green, J. B. Lyon, W. A. Stephen and a few others have given freely of their time and money in order to continue this work for the advancement of the poultry industry. The above members have also put on the poultry exhibit at the Wabasha County Fair each year for the Fair Association and have made it one of the most attractive exhibits at the annual Fair.

### PLAINVIEW TOWNSHIP.

Plainview Township lies in the extreme southern part of Wabasha County, and is bounded, generally speaking, by Highland Township, Wabasha County, on the north; Whitewater Township, Winona County, on the east; Quincy Township, Olmstead County on the south; and Elgin Township, Wabasha County, on the west. Its eastern line is coincident with the First Guide Meridian of the Government Survey. Its northern line is coincident with the Second Standard Parallel of the Government Survey, and for this reason Government Township 108-11 which constitutes Plainview Township, does not fall squarely south of Township 109-11, which constitutes Highland Township, and consequently for about a half a mile at the northwest, Plainview has Oakwood Township for its northern boundary.

The town for the most part is a rich, undulating prairie, approaching to the level in the northeast. Along the southeast the town is broken by the abrupt descent to the level of the Whitewater, and in the east by the bluff vale of a small branch of that stream. The watershed between the Whitewater and Zumbro Rivers extends across the north central portion of the township, east and west from Plainview, the village being on the crest. From this watershed, "dry runs" extend toward both valleys, these runs in the springtime being filled with the rushing currents of the surplus surface waters. The soil is rich, productive, easy to till, and has the excellent merit of retaining an unchanging growing quality in seasons of wet and drouth alike.

The township was first settled in 1854, but the real influx came in 1855. Titles to land claims were somewhat complicated by uncertainty as to the Government's final action in regard to the Half Breed Track, in which the northeastern third of the county was included. The first settlers were Oliver Nelson Olson and Andrew A. Halverson, natives of Norway, who brought their families here from Wisconsin in 1854.

In 1855 the first American settlers located in the central part of the township and established the village of Greenville. This became the nucleus of a settlement of other Americans, and to this day the traditions of the township are almost entirely those of New England, and the other Atlantic states, although there has been a considerable sprinkling of Scandinavian settlement, and in more recent years the people of Teutonic origin and birth have settled here in increasing numbers.

Much of the early American settlement centered about the village of Greenville, afterward called Greenwood. The vanguard of settlers was a party consisting of E. B. Eddy, A. T. Sharp, Thomas Todd, William Boatman, and several temporary helpers, among whom was David Campbell. Mr. Eddy and Mr. Boatman brought their wives. A few days later came David Ackley and Edwin Chapman. Within about a week arrived another party. Of this party, two, Benjamin Lawrence and A. P. Foster, remained and became prominent citizens.



## CHAPTER XII.

### ELGIN VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP.

Elgin Village is the shipping point of a rich farming community which extends into Olmsted County, and furnishes adequate trading facilities for the people it serves. To the stranger the village presents a particularly attractive appearance, the north side of its principal business street stretching eastward from the railroad station being filled with sightly brick and stucco buildings, which on the south side is the new hotel, and a number of wooden buildings, as well as the brick telephone office. Westward from the tracks are the two elevators and the water tower. The residence section is well laid out, with cement sidewalks and numerous shade trees, and contains many handsome modern homes.

The village is located at a point where the broad acres of Greenwood Prairie blends with the northern border of the beautiful valley of the Whitewater, a stream that here drains the fertile acres of Viola and Elgin townships, and is fed by a myriad of sparkling springs from the hill sides, which gives a diversity of landscape that challenges the admiration. The southern border of the valley is skirted with low lying bluffs fringed with belts of timber and copse wood, while the northern border of the valley is lost in the undulating prairies that stretch many miles to the northward, to be lost in turn in the rugged landscape of the Zumbro River.

Elgin is incorporated, and the municipal improvements include good fire protection, waterworks, and electricity, and an excellent school which will soon be housed in a \$65,000 building. There are Methodist and Lutheran churches, a good newspaper, two live banks, a creamery and live stock shipping association, and a goodly number of stores.

The early history of the village coincides with the early settlement of the township, as the interests of the community which the first settlers started centered about sections 27 and 28, in which sections the present village is located. The claims of the first four settlers, George and Curtis Bryant, Henry H. Atherton and George Farrer were all in this vicinity.

The first house of public accommodation was the frame house erected in 1856 on the northwest quarter of section 28, by George and Waldo Farrar, and opened by George Farrar for the entertainment of travelers. This is considered the first hotel and the first place of business in the community. This hotel was closed in 1860, and shortly after that Zebina Weld opened a hotel in the northwest quarter of section 27.

In the meantime, in 1857, Benjamin H. Gould built and conducted a blacksmith shop on the northeast corner of section 34. Mr. Gould, in 1858, erected for D. R. Sweezy, a blacksmith shop, a little south of what is now the east head of Elgin's principal business street. A flouring mill was built in 1860, on what was afterward known as the Mill lot in section 27, on the north branch of the Whitewater, by Parr & Ellis. In 1866 the mill was discontinued for lack of sufficient waterpower, and the machinery removed to Elba, in Winona County.

The first store was opened in the fall of 1863. In the fall of that year Albert Glines sent D. F. Ferguson to Minneiska for a load of goods, which Mr. Glines displayed for sale in the home of John Houghton in section 27. In the following winter, Mr. Glines moved his granary from his farm to what is now the northeast corner of Main and Mill Streets, in the village of Elgin, fitted it up for a store, stocked it with general merchandise, and started business in the



spring of 1864. This store was later taken over by the Richardson Brothers who conducted it for many years.

In 1874 Alexander Scott started a wagon-making shop on the corner of Park and School streets, which he continued for many years. Bryant Brothers & Johnson started a general store on the northwest corner of Park and Main streets. The first drug store in Elgin was started in 1876 by N. S. Head, but soon changed hands several times and was finally sold to Bryant Brothers & Johnson, who conducted it in connection with their general store.

In 1877, Bryant Brothers & Johnson erected a grain elevator on Main street, a few rods west of their store which was on the southwest corner of Main and Park streets. They marketed their grain in Eyota, the nearest railroad point. A few months later, in the same year, Richardson Brothers erected their elevator which with alterations and additions is still standing on the same site. Their market was at Mississippi River points. This year, 1877, was the banner grain year of southeastern Minnesota. The next year came the wheat failure, but these two elevators had plenty of grain in storage, for which they found a good market at a good price. When the railroad came, the Richardson Brothers found themselves in a suitable location with their elevator, but the Bryant Brothers & Johnson firm were compelled to move to the tracks, to its present location, the successive owners having been Louis Hoffman, J. W. Bryant, the Western Elevator Co., and D. F. Farsley.

The Winona & St. Peter railroad was completed through Elgin in November, 1878. It enters the town in section 33 and extends in a northeastwardly direction through the village of Elgin, to section 13, where it enters Plainview Township. With the coming of the railroad there was considerable doubt as to where the village was to be located. Hitherto the principal street was Main street, running north and south some three blocks east of where the railroad is now located. The Richardson Brothers, being well located on Main street, and owning property in the vicinity were contented to have Main street remain the business street, more especially as they were well provided with shipping facilities through their elevator which was located along the right of way. George Bryant, on the other hand, planned a village along Broadway, two blocks west of the station, he too having shipping facilities near the right of way, having moved the Bryant Brothers & Johnson elevator from its location on Main street. The Bryant Brothers & Johnson store was moved from Main street to Broadway, and other business houses built along that street. So for a time there were two villages, one on Main street and one on Broadway, with the station and the elevators in between at the tracks. Before long, however, a compromise was reached, Main street and Broadway were abandoned as business streets, and the stores were moved to Park street, so that the business center now starts at the tracks and stretches eastward.

The first issue of the Minnesota Union, published July 4, 1879, contains a number of advertisements which may be taken as fairly indicative of the business interests of the village shortly after the arrival of the railroad. These advertisements were as follows: H. G. Richardson & Son, general store; Bryant Brothers & Johnson (George and Curtis Bryant and A. K. Johnson), general store; Eureka House, A. F. Durham; Elgin House, L. V. Rich; Northwestern Hotel, H. Sievert; George M. Clark, farm machinery; S. F. Wicklow, farm machinery; W. T. Adams, meats; Henry Claussen, meats; E. W. Westover, blacksmith; D. A. Hart, refreshments; Frank Kierman, billiard hall; W. J. Abbott, barber; Beardsley & Weber, harness makers; R. McBride, mason; Alex Scott, wagon maker; J. M. Williams, dentist; A. B. Clark, dentist.

Elgin was already a hamlet of considerable importance in 1884. At that time the business houses were as follows: Richardson Bros., grain elevator and lumber yard; J. W. Bryant & Co., grain elevator and coal yard; E. Ordway & Son, hardware, tinware and pumps; Landon, Burchard & Co., drugs and medicines; H. G. Richardson & Co., dry goods, groceries, clothing, etc.; Fred.



Meyer, blacksmith and horseshoeing; M. H. Moody, harnessmaker and carpenter; Alex. Scott, wagonmaker; F. A. Amsden, harnessmaker; William Beantler, boots and shoes; Frank Ressler, butcher; E. O. Morton, carpenter, painter and windmills; Mercer Bros., blacksmithing and horseshoeing; John Graham, carpenter; Frank Kiernan, saloon and billiards, and E. Meilke, saloon and pool. There are two hotels in Elgin, the Eureka House, M. H. Safford, proprietor, and the Northwestern Hotel, E. Meilke, proprietor. Dr. W. T. Adams, then of the firm of Landon, Burchard & Co., had his private office in the rear of that company's drug store. J. B. Norton, justice of the peace, had his headquarters in the office of the Richardson Brothers' elevator. Dorr Dickerman, the town clerk, had his office in the store of E. Ordway & Son.

The fire of 1889 is an event long remembered in Elgin. On the night of November . . ., a dance was in progress in the dance hall over the store of the Richardson Brothers, on the north side of Park street, when a fire broke out in the old tanks in the rear of the store, probably caused by a lighted cigar. The fire was discovered by one of the dancers, and the young men present at once turned in an alarm and went after the village fire apparatus. The fire rapidly spread in two directions to the saloon building on one side and the bank on the other. The fire volunteers soon had three streams of water playing on the flame, and heroic work of these volunteers, together with the fact that two large wooden buildings had recently been pulled down to make room for two proposed brick buildings, undoubtedly saved the entire business section from ruin. Disastrous as the fire was, it resulted in good to the village, for that side of the street was soon afterward built up with brick blocks.

The village of Elgin had no separate government from the township until 1894, when it was incorporated. The first officers were: President, J. W. Bryant; trustees, H. G. Richardson, L. Hoffman, and D. W. Searles; recorder, John R. Houghton; treasurer, C. H. Siem; constables, B. S. Ordway and John Tradup; justice of the peace, Robert Williams. The streets, business houses and residences are well lighted with electricity, furnished by the Commonwealth Utilities Co. For some years the streets were lighted with kerosene lamps. In 1911, the village put in an acetylene plant for street lighting, the vote being taken by the council March 4 of that year. The Commonwealth Utilities Co. was granted a franchise March 4, 1911. A contract for street lighting was signed by the council Feb. 13, 1917, and the electric current turned on Feb. 8, 1917. The council meetings are held in the First State Bank. The village building houses the jail, the pumping station, and the fire apparatus. There is also an additional small building as a more conveniently located shelter for one of the hose carts.

The first move toward a waterworks system in Elgin was taken March 4, 1895, when land for the purpose of erecting a plant was purchased from J. W. Bryant and the Richardson Brothers, not far from the Richardson Elevator. A well was drilled, a tower and tank erected, windmill power installed, and 6-inch mains placed down the business street. With this beginning, the system has gradually been extended. The windmill was early found inadequate, and a gasoline engine installed. Later another well was drilled and another gasoline engine installed. In 1908 a new tower and tank were constructed. In 1917 a kerosene engine was put in, being paid for the first year. The works now consist of a direct and gravity system, with a gravity pressure of 60 pounds. The elevated tank on a 100-foot tower has a capacity of 47,250 gallons. The water supply is from two wells, 100 and 240 feet deep. There are six-inch mains along the main streets of town, and others of four inches. There are twenty hydrants. The water is distributed to every part of the village through well constructed mains, and there are very few houses in the village that are not supplied with the city water. Water is supplied to the users, at a moderate expense. Lawns are sprinkled at the option of owners, and streets are sprinkled in any part of the village, when residents request it. The water has a force



sufficient to throw a double stream of water over the highest buildings, in the remote parts of the village, while on the business streets, from four to six powerful streams are available at once. In this system Elgin takes considerable pride, and is further honored in being one of the pioneers in establishing water-works among the small towns of this part of the state.

The Elgin Fire Department, as at present constituted, was organized April 8, 1905. Previous to that time there had been a bucket brigade of volunteers. The first officers in 1905 were John Walch, president; D. R. Bigham, secretary; D. W. Searles, treasurer; and Charles Richmond, chief. J. G. Marek and Albert Stephans were the wardens. The full membership of 25 there was one company, with J. D. Siem as captain, and Carl Houghton and Vincent Holton as lieutenants. The other company was organized before the close of the year. In addition to affording fire protection, the department has taken an important part in the affairs of the village. On July 4, 1905, it had charge of a large "Home Coming" celebration, and in 1908 a similar affair was held. Several dances have been given, and the funds thus secured used in the purchase of a piano, for a small house, and for a fire bell and other smaller equipment not furnished by the village. The company has two hose carts with about 600 feet of 2½-inch cotton hose, a hook and ladder truck and a 40-gallon chemical engine.

The school lot where is now located the Elgin public school has been the center of the instruction of youth in this vicinity since 1858, when school was taught there in a little claim shanty. The school is well equipped, and teaches the usual graded and high school subjects. The village has recently voted \$65,000 for a new building. The east wing of the present building was erected in 1883 after the cyclone, the west wing being added later. The first high school class was graduated in 1893. There were four members of the class: Louis Davis, Emmelyne J. Resler, now Mrs. Wolf; Ada C. Richardson, now Mrs. Charles Goodwin; and Iva M. Richardson, now Mrs. Paul Bryant. The school has the usual play apparatus in the yard. In the winter time, the village floods a nearby pasture, thus furnishing a safe skating place for the younger generation.

From the early days, there has been no lack of music in Elgin. Among the pioneers, there was a number of good singers, and music was always a feature of all social and religious gatherings. As time went on, musical instruments found their way among the people, and as the village increased in importance, efforts were made to organize a brass band which were more or less successful under different leaderships, which with the aid of a drum corps, always afforded music for nearly all public occasions.

In more recent years that has been a good band, public concerts have been given, and during the World War, the musicians were very generous in donating their services for various public patriotic functions. Orchestras are formed from time to time that are in good demand. Among the people there is a considerable amount of musical talent, and most public entertainments are well supplied with music that ranks high among the musical efforts in larger communities. There are very few homes that do not boast of a piano or musical instrument of some kind, and not a few among the children and young people are proficient players. Among our children and young folks there are also a number of beautiful voices that are capable of being trained into any kind of concert work that may be desired.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Elgin dates back to the earliest days. Many of the most prominent of the early settlers brought with them their Methodist faith from Vermont. The first Methodist services were held here in the home of George Bryant as early as 1855. William H. Soul preached here in 1858 or 1859, Elgin being then included in the St. Charles circuit, which, besides Elgin, embraced St. Charles, Dover, Eyota, Littleville and Plainview. O. P. Crawford, who came here in 1857, was also a local preacher. October 6,



1866, the Elgin circuit was organized, taking in a part of what had hitherto been the Plainview circuit. It included appointments at Forest Mound, Farmington, Pleasant View, Fitch's Schoolhouse, and the Stone Schoolhouse. A board of trustees was constituted. The new circuit took immediate measures toward the erection of a parsonage at Elgin, for which George Bryant gave the land. Labor was commenced October 15, and on November 10 the minister's goods were moved into the house when only part of the roof was on. On November 19, the building was completed. The official members for the year 1877 were Town Williams, S. G. Matthews, B. H. Gould, R. W. Chapman, George Bryant and George Farrar. In 1879 J. Q. Richardson, I. W. Rollins and Joseph Crawford were added. In 1878 the circuit contracted with J. W. Dickey for the erection of a church edifice, including foundation, for \$2,300, and this edifice was built under the direction of the board, and completed about September, 1878. It had an existence of but a few years, however, as it was totally demolished by the cyclone of July 21, 1883. The present church building was erected on the old site. Various improvements have since been made from time to time, including a full basement for the Sunday school and social purposes, constructed in 1915. The pastors have been: Reverend Messrs. W. C. Rice, George S. Simms, Nahun Taintor, J. G. Tetor, George S. Inness, O. A. Phillips, J. W. Mower, J. W. Stebbins, Leland P. Smith, T. H. Kinsman, Rev. Squire, B. C. Gillis, Wm. Gillis, W. T. Miller, E. C. Teachout, H. L. St. Clair, R. C. Wilkinson, S. W. Kemerer, R. O. Laureson, E. C. Lathrop, J. R. Jeffery, H. Hugh Gower, A. T. Davis, F. W. Sanderson and E. W. Haley.

The Congregational Church of Elgin was in the early days an important feature in the religious life of the community. Rev. Jonathan Cochran, an early settler who was also a clergyman, began holding services in Elgin as early as 1858. April 10, 1858, the church was regularly organized at the home of John Bryant. Rev. Jonathan Cochran was moderator, Benjamin H. Gould was clerk. Rev. Elias Clark, of Rochester, was present and assisted in the organization. The Articles of Faith and Covenants of the General Congregational Churches were adopted, with the exception that Article 7, relating to the sinful condition of man, was not to be accepted as including infants, an interesting sidelight on the theological trend of thought at that period.

The following persons were received from other churches: Benjamin Gould, Betsy Gould, Almira C. Gould, Benjamin H. Gould and Elizabeth Gould from the First Congregational Church of Seaport, Maine; Erastus Dodge, Mercy Dodge and Chandler W. Dodge, from the Independent Congregational Church of Oswego, N. Y.; and Catherine Washburn from the Congregational Church of Waterloo, Wis. James A. Washburn, Martha Dodge and Susan F. Dodge were received on profession of faith. Benjamin Gould was chosen deacon and Chandler W. Dodge, clerk. The next day being Sunday, regular church services were held and a Sunday school was organized with R. C. Stillman as superintendent. July 19, R. C. Stillman presented a letter from the Congregational Church of Hitchcockville, Conn., and Amy Barton from the Congregational Church of Binghamton, N. Y. The early meetings of the congregation were held at the John Bryant residence and the Forest Mound schoolhouse. Unfortunately difficulties soon arose in which the pastor and the deacon assumed opposite sides, difficulties somewhat typical of the days of uncompromising theological dogma, when "pride" and "self righteousness" were deadly accusations to bring against a church member, and when differences in church circles spread to the entire community. As the result of the controversy the deacon with his family withdrew to the Methodist Episcopal church and was succeeded by James A. Washburn. Sept. 5, 1862, Henry Willard, the Plainview pastor, became pastor. Rev. Mr. Cochran continued to reside here and died a little later. Oct. 8, 1866, Rev. Palmer Letts became the pastor. For him a parsonage was erected, the work being started Nov. 7, 1866, and the pastor moving in Feb. 12, 1867, though the work was not entirely completed. Aug. 7, 1870, Rev. Gilbert T. Holcomb



became the pastor. April 2, 1871, Rev. Mr. Willard of Plainview was again given charge. Since then there has been preaching at irregular intervals. In 1889 there came a revival of interest, with Rev. J. B. Renshaw as pastor, and in 1890 the new Articles and Covenants were adopted. The organization is still in existence, but the few remaining members worship with other congregations. The Congregational Society, as distinct from the congregation, was organized Jan. 28, 1867, the first trustees being Nathan Engle, George Bryant and William Cochran.

The Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church (U. A. C.) was founded Feb. 19, 1894, by a number of Lutherans in and near Elgin, some of whom were members of Lutheran church at Potsdam, Minn. Rev. C. W. Brink, of Potsdam church, assisted in the organization. The charter members were: Carl Uecker, Julius Bartz, Hermann Schumacher, Fritz Petrich, Gustav Ponto, August Polikowsky, August Nehring, Ludwig Gehlhar, Julius Baum, Julius Polikowsky, Ferdinand Lambrecht, Rudolf Ponto, Louis Hoffman, Julius Rosolack, Christian Koepke, Julius Stephan. In the summer of 1894 the congregation erected a church 24x36, and parsonage on the east half of block 19, purchased from H. G. Richardson & Co. for \$200. The church was dedicated in October, 1894, which day also witnessed the installation of the first pastor, Rev. Henry Koepsell, a graduate of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill. Rev. Koepsell accepted a charge at Alexandria, August, 1895. Rev. J. Kirmis of Potsdam filled the vacancy which lasted till February, 1896. Rev. B. Otto then took charge and served until August, 1900. September 5, 1900, Rev. E. H. T. Walther began noble work and served till May, 1919.

June 22, 1919, Rev. C. A. Affeldt, of Waltham, Minn., was installed as pastor by Rev. M. Weinhold, of Rochester. In 1905 the congregation erected a fine new church edifice on the old site, the old building being assigned to serve as school room. The first teacher in charge of the week-day school was Werner Heidtbrink, who served from September, 1917, to August, 1919. The school offers first to eighth grade subjects in the English language. In 1919 the parsonage was remodeled and enlarged by an addition to the west side. An addition was also built to the schoolhouse to serve as second class room and meeting room for the Ladies' Aid Society, consisting of some 50 members. The congregation now owns a complete set of necessary buildings in first-class condition. All buildings are electrically lighted and connected with village water system.

January 1, 1920, the congregation numbered 87 voting members, 286 communicant members and 450 souls. Its property is valued at \$25,000. The deacons are Emil Sell, Ferd. Koepsell and Gustav Gehlhar; the trustees, Aug. Koepsell, Gustav Ponto and Henry Wehrs; the school board, Chas. Tradup, Ernst Koepsell, Joh. Roeder; the treasurer, Reinh. Lietz; the secretary, Ernst Koepsell; the chairman, Wm. Schultz. With Trinity Church from its beginning was connected St. John's Church at Haverhill, Olmsted Co., and since 1898, St. John's Lutheran Church in Viola Township, Olmsted County. The pastor is highly esteemed, not only by his own congregations, but by the community, and his work is one of valued and increasing usefulness to this vicinity.

The First State Bank of Elgin dates back to the financial activities of J. W. Bryant, in the early nineties. About 1891, he started the Elgin Bank, a private institution. He opened in a building occupying the site of the present bank. This structure was burned in 1899, and was replaced in 1902 by the present bank. This building, of slightly ornamental brick, is well equipped as a modern banking house. It has been an important center in the village for many years. Many notable committee meetings have been held there; at one time the postoffice was located in its rear, and the village council still meets there. Mr. Bryant continued his private institution until April 1, 1904. On that date the First National Bank was organized by a group of Winona men, connected with the Merchants National Bank, in that city. The incorporators





FIRST STATE BANK OF ELGIN.

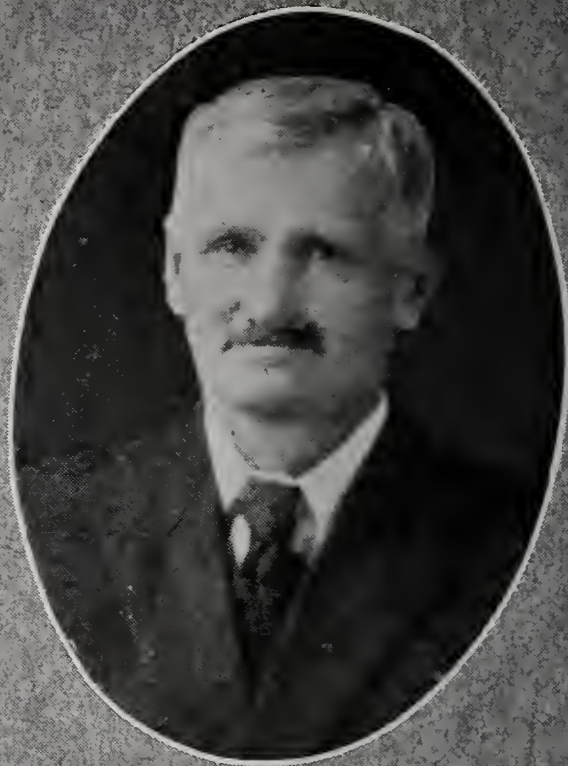












FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK, ELGIN; EMIL J. SELL, President;  
JOHN C. KETTNER, Cashier



were W. P. Tearse, Sr. (president), J. H. Davis (vice-president), Hanibal Choate, V. Simpson and Theodore Wold. The new institution opened its doors April 4, 1904, with a capital of \$25,000. John Walsh was cashier, and Edith Sawyer, who has been with Mr. Bryant, was assistant. In 1905 George Toogood and John Dubbles were added to the list of directors. In 1906 Mr. Tearse resigned as president and was followed by Hanibal Choate. The national charter was surrendered Aug. 1, 1909, and on Aug. 2, 1919, the bank was chartered as the First State Bank of Elgin with a capital of \$30,000 and a surplus of \$10,000. The first officials were: J. H. Davis (president), George Toogood (vice-president), John Walch (cashier), W. H. Richardson, John Dubbles, H. Choate and Theo. Wold. George Toogood was succeeded as vice-president in 1916 by W. H. Richardson. After Mr. Wold entered the Federal Reserve Bank, he resigned his place on the directorate of the bank at Elgin, and was succeeded by Charles Tradup. In 1915, John D. Siem became the assistant cashier. In 1920 William H. Richardson became president, John Walch vice-president, and John Siem cashier. The working force of the bank now consists of Messrs. Walch and Siem and Miss Sawyer. In December, 1904, the deposits were \$52,000. In 1910 the deposits had increased to \$225,000; in 1915 to \$350,000; and in 1919 to \$640,000. A statement of the condition of the bank at the close of business Sept. 12, 1919, shows a capital of \$30,000; surplus and undivided profits of \$23,553.47; deposits of \$556,900.52; and loans and discounts of \$486,486.75. The bank has taken its share in all public and patriotic work, and is assisting its village and agricultural patrons along all lines of legitimate endeavor, thus helping in the general prosperity of the whole community.

The Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Elgin had its beginning in 1914. In that year J. W. Elliott, of Minneapolis, realizing the future possibilities of this rich region, came here, and interested George E. Purvis and Ernest Palmer in the proposition of starting a new bank. These three gentlemen made the necessary canvass and secured the requisite number of stockholders. On Nov. 30, 1914, the news of the granting of a charter came by wire, and the bank was duly constituted with the three gentlemen mentioned, and Emil Schwantz and R. W. Richardson as the incorporators. The first officers were: President, J. W. Elliott; vice-president, R. W. Richardson; cashier, John C. Kettner; directors in addition to these three, Emil Schwantz and Vincent Hallenbeck. Mr. Elliott remained as president until June 17, 1918, when he was succeeded by Emil J. Sell, who is still in office. Thomas Richardson is now vice-president and John C. Kettner cashier, the other four directors being Vincent Hallenbeck, E. F. Schwartz, Thomas C. Richardson and Alfred Kenitz. The bank opened for business Dec. 1, 1914, in the old Webber Hotel. John C. Kettner, the cashier, was in sole charge. A few months later, additional help was necessary, and Alfred J. Schwantz became assistant cashier. He was followed by Arthur B. Bradbury. He entered the United States Navy May 1, 1917. The next assistant was Mabel W. Searles, followed Oct. 13, 1919, by Elsie E. Lindemer, who is still serving. The bank remained in its original quarters until moving into its new building Nov. 1, 1915. This building is the most sightly in the village, admirably equipped for its purpose in every way, and constituting a well-lighted banking house equipped with every facility for the carrying on of modern finance. The original capital of the bank was \$12,000, increased on Dec. 1, 1919, to \$24,800. The increase in the amount of deposits on Dec. 1 of each succeeding year of the bank's history tells an interesting story of progress: 1915, \$33,000; 1916, \$56,000; 1917, \$86,000; 1918, \$95,000; 1919, \$125,000. At the close of business Sept. 12, 1919, the bank had a capital of \$10,000; surplus and undivided profits of \$3,328.62; deposits of \$100,434.98; and loans and discounts of \$70,340.94. The bank has taken its share in working to increase the general prosperity of the community, especially in the way of making it possible for the farmers to secure improved seed corn. It has also materially increased the number of silos in this region, especially in the past



three years. It has fathered the Elgin Live Stock Shipping Association, and also assisted other local enterprises. During the war it did its full share in the various patriotic drives.

Elgin has had four newspapers, the "Minnesota Union," the "Elgin Journal," the "Elgin Free Press," and the "Elgin Monitor." In the early days various neighboring papers at Winona, Rochester, Wabasha, Lake City and Plainview carried Elgin news items, contributed by various local people. One of these contributors was Ed. F. Barrett, who afterward became well known in the state as a professional journalist. The first issue of the "Minnesota Union" was dated July 4, 1879. The editor was F. O. Harding. There was but little local news in it. Such local items as appeared were largely of an advertising nature. The program of the exercises to be held that day was given, and an article signed by George Bryant told of the advantages of Elgin and vicinity as a place of business. Only a few numbers were issued.

The "Elgin Journal" first appeared March 25, 1882, and the last issue appeared Feb. 15, 1883. It was published monthly, with an extra issue in December, 1882. The editorial page bore the name of the Journal Publishing Co., but as a matter of fact, W. T. Adams was the editor and publisher, his reason for issuing the paper being the boosting of the village he loved so well.

The Elgin Free Press was established in the fall of 1895 by R. H. Lunenberg. He sold it after about three years to the Plainview News.

The Elgin Monitor was established Nov. 23, 1904, with Ross Hargrave as editor. The office was then located in the old postoffice building on Park street, across from the Northwestern depot. Mr. Hargrave conducted the paper for four months, when it was purchased by C. R. C. Baker, who took possession April 1, 1905. Mr. Baker continued as editor and published for 18 months, or until Sept. 7, 1906, when he sold out to Vincent Holton, the present proprietor. The paper was then moved to the First State Bank building, where it remained until October, 1915, when it was moved to its present location in the O'Donnell building, on Park street. Mr. Holton's policy has been to conduct a newsy paper in the interest of the people of the village and the surrounding community, and his efforts have met with due appreciation. The Monitor has a circulation of 650, the subscriptions being payable in advance. In politics it is independent.

Elgin Postoffice was established in 1857. Many years ago there was merged in it the postoffice of Forest Mound, which was established in 1861 in the northern part of the township with William Town as postmaster. The Elgin office established in 1857 was located in the house of George Bryant in section 27. Possibly Mr. Bryant was the postmaster, but the work was done by his sister, Mary Ann Bryant, who was generally regarded among the early settlers as the postmistress. Previous to the establishment of the postoffice, the nearest points for the distribution of mail were the steamboat towns along the Mississippi; any settler happening to make the trip to those points bringing the mail back with him. After about ten years, Charles S. Richardson became the postmaster. There are two rural routes, both established Sept. 1, 1914. The first carrier on No. 1 was Henry E. Sawyer, succeeded by the present carrier, Fred L. Weber. The first carrier on No. 2 was D. J. Whipple, who is still serving. Mrs. Stella M. Searles, the present assistant postmistress, has held office since Aug. 2, 1916.

The Elgin Telephone Co., now merged in the Greenwood Prairie Telephone Co., had its beginning in 1897, when Dr. W. T. Adams and Ernest Palmer installed a private line, with toll connections at Rochester. A few local telephones were installed in the village and a few farmers also put in instruments. Later the Elgin Telephone Co. was incorporated with Dr. W. T. Adams as president, Ernest Palmer as vice-president, and W. P. Holton as secretary. This company added many miles of toll line, and installed a large number of phones among the farmers through Elgin, Viola and Quincy townships, besides



installing a large number of phones as a village exchange, but in 1903, finding it very difficult to secure money as fast as the investment required and because the doctor found the management required too great a sacrifice of his time, he sold his stock to holders of stock in the Greenwood Prairie Telephone company, after which the former company became extinct, and ownership and management of the telephone interests in Elgin passed into the hands of the Greenwood Prairie company.

One improvement after another has followed rapidly under the new management. The local service has been extended until now there are few families in town or country who do not have telephone service. The local service has kept pace with the improvements made by the larger telephone companies so that the toll line possibilities are almost without limit. Elgin boasts of a fine telephone exchange located in a fine new brick building built by the Greenwood Prairie company.

The company has been among the first to institute new and up-to-date equipment and service in every department. Senator James A. Carley, of Plainview, is the secretary and manager of the Greenwood Prairie Telephone company and it is due to his efforts that this village is getting a telephone service that is equal to that in the larger cities.

The Elgin Live Stock Shipping Association has been an important factor in the development of the stock raising industry in the county, and has materially increased the profits of the farmers from that line of industry. The original organization meeting was held December 15, 1915. The following officers were selected: President, Emil J. Sell; secretary and treasurer, R. W. Richardson; trustees for three years, Thomas C. Richardson and Frank H. Ferguson; for two years, George L. Thompson and Arthur Searles; for one year, J. C. Gregor and Emil Schwantz. Emil J. Sell was chosen active manager. The first shipment was made Jan. 8, 1916. The company ships swine, cows and veal on an extensive scale, something like 95 cars having been shipped in 1919. In that year the total receipts were \$250,280.76, of which the patrons received \$247,944.84.

The Elgin Ice Company embodies a project for the making of ice for home consumption, by filling molds with water, allowing the outdoor air to freeze it solid, and then releasing the blocks from the molds by means of steam, thus securing pure natural ice at a nominal cost. The company was organized Nov. 28, 1919, the organizers being: Dr. T. M. Pesch, John C. Kettner, T. A. Rice, E. O. Becker, D. F. Kimber, Emil J. Sell, John Walch, J. D. Siem, J. F. Scott, D. E. Earsley, H. J. Bartz, J. A. Saufal, W. H. Benike, W. A. Johnston, D. J. Whipple, Charles Tradup, F. W. Westover and R. W. Richardson.

The Elgin Cheese Factory, the beginning of factory dairy industry in this region, started in the eighties, in a building still standing on the east side of Main street, south of the residence of Charles S. Richardson. This factory was operated by the Richardson Brothers, who at that time were operating a general store in that vicinity. The farmers brought in their milk, and took back whey to feed to their hogs. This factory operated for several years.

The Elgin Co-operative Creamery furnishes an excellent outlet for the extensive dairy industry in this vicinity. The Association was incorporated May 6, 1897, and business was commenced the same month in a building erected for the purpose. Much of the preliminary work done before the organization was the result of the enthusiasm of William H. Fellar. The creamery began as a whole milk plant, but about 1900 a few of the patrons began to use hand separators, and in time the whole milk plan was abandoned, and only cream is now received, the farmers hauling it themselves. The first officers of the Association were: O. T. Dickerman, president; Ferdinand Hampel, vice-president; R. W. Richardson, secretary; Dorr Dickerman, treasurer. O. T. Dickerman served as president one year, his successors being: Carl Uecker, 1898-1905; Julius Bartz, 1905-1911; Emil Schwantz, 1911-1914;



Ferdinand Hampel from 1914 to the present time, he having been re-elected for the year 1920. Mr. Richardson served two years as secretary, and was succeeded by F. H. Ferguson, who served six years; G. J. Pratt, five years and nine months; and C. E. Dickerman, who after nine years and three months' service, was again elected in 1920, H. E. Preston being elected vice-president, and Charles Richardson treasurer. At the same time Henry Wehrs, Ernest Koepsell and W. E. Smith were elected directors for the year. The creamery has enjoyed a healthy growth. In 1902 its net earnings were \$38,584.19. The report for 1909 showed gross earnings of \$49,577.62; expenses, \$2,717.83; net earnings, \$46,859.79; amount paid patrons, \$45,538.14; balance, \$1,321.65. The report for 1919 showed gross earnings of \$145,961.33; total running expenses, \$5,528.09; sinking fund, \$1,284.00; total expenses, \$6,812.09; net earnings, \$139,149.24. The amount on hand at the beginning of the year was \$42.48; total amount net, \$139,191.72; paid patrons, \$139,184.91; balance on hand, \$6.81. The number of patrons during 1919 varied from 126 to 159.

The lumber yard has done much to increase the building industry in this vicinity. With the coming of the railroad, the lumber yard business was started in connection with the Richardson elevator. About 1896, the Laird Norton Yards, with headquarters at Winona, established one of their yards here. J. D. McMartin, now the vice-president of the O. M. Botsford Lumber Co., was the first agent here. In March, 1912, the Botsford Lumber Co. took over the Laird-Norton interests, and has since operated the yard with a local agent.

Elgin Lodge No. 115, A. F. & A. M., Elgin, was organized under dispensation, April 28, 1874. The officers who served under dispensation were: George Bryant, master; Enoch Dickerman, senior warden; H. G. Richardson, junior warden; George Farrar, treasurer; J. Q. Richardson, secretary; Nathan Engle, chaplain; D. A. Hart, senior deacon; George Engle, junior deacon; Ezra Dickerman, senior steward; O. V. Rollins, junior steward; R. G. Richardson, tyler.

The charter was dated January 13, 1875, and the following were charter members: George Bryant, George Farrar, David A. Hart, Nathan Engle, Orvis V. Rollins, Chas. S. Richardson, Curtis Bryant, Edward B. Hart, Andrew K. Johnson, Benj. F. Norton, Horatio G. Richardson, John Q. Richardson, George Engle, Ezra Dickerman, Robert J. Richardson, Joseph Richardson, Ezra Feller, Henry C. Richardson, Hoyt G. Hale, Enoch Dickerman.

The charter officers were: George Bryant, W. M.; Enoch Dickerman, S. W.; H. G. Richardson, J. W.; Nathan Engle, Chaplain; George Farrar, Treasurer; J. Q. Richardson, Secretary; David A. Hart, S. D.; George Engle, J. D.; Ezra Dickerman, S. S.; O. V. Rollins, J. S.; Edward B. Hart, Tyler.

The first lodge hall was located over the H. G. Richardson vacant store on Main street, the building being better known as the old cheese factory. In 1882 the lodge rented the upper story of the E. O. Ordway building, later known as the L. E. Gates store, and the first meeting was held in the new hall Feb. 14, 1883. The following winter the lodge hall was transferred to the upper story of the Bryant store building, which Richardson Bros. had just purchased, and moved to Park street, where the First State Bank now stands. This lodge hall was nicely furnished and made an ideal place for a lodge home until July 29th, 1899, when the building in which the hall was located burned, together with most of the lodge furniture and equipment. In August, 1899, the present hall in the Searles & Siem building on Park street was rented and furnished. In May, 1915, the lodge purchased the hall over the Dushek Hardware Store, which they now occupy.

The masters of Elgin Lodge No. 115, A. F. & A. M., Elgin, Minn.: George Bryant, Master U. D., April 28, 1874, to Jan. 13, 1875; George Bryant, Jan. 13, 1875, to December 28, 1877; Enoch Dickerman, Jan. 3, 1877, to Dec. 28, 1877; George Bryant, Dec. 28, 1877, to Dec. 28, 1878; William Searles, Dec. 28, 1878, to Dec. 27, 1879; D. F. Ferguson, Dec. 27, 1879, to Jan. 2, 1884; H. C. Richard-



son, Jan. 2, 1884, to Dec. 30, 1884; J. W. Bryant, Dec. 30, 1884, to Dec. 22, 1888; D. F. Ferguson, Dec. 22, 1888, to Dec. 28, 1889; J. W. Bryant, Dec. 28, 1889, to Dec. 18, 1893; R. L. Wood, Dec. 18, 1893, to Dec. 27, 1894; J. W. Bryant, Dec. 27, 1894, to Dec. 28, 1898; D. F. Ferguson, Dec. 28, 1898, to Dec. 18, 1900; J. W. Bryant, Dec. 18, 1900, to Dec. 10, 1904; R. L. Wood, Dec. 10, 1904, to Dec. 6, 1906; H. A. Stephan, Dec. 6, 1906, to Dec. 21, 1909; D. W. McDougall, Dec. 21, 1909, to Dec. 29, 1911; Vincent Holton, Dec. 29, 1911, to Dec. 30, 1913; Fred Holton, Dec. 30, 1913, to Dec. 28, 1915; Carl V. Houghton, Dec. 28, 1915, to Dec. 29, 1916; Henry Luhman, Dec. 29, 1916, to Dec. 28, 1917; Jay H. Smith, Dec. 28, 1917, to Jan. 3, 1919; R. E. Graves, Jan. 3, 1919, to Dec. 30, 1919; W. P. Hagner, Dec. 30, 1919, to the present.

Vesper Chapter, No. 196, O. E. S., was chartered June 8, 1910, the charter officers being: Worthy matron, Lenore Holton; worthy patron, Vincent Holton; associate matron, Ida Marek; treasurer, Mary McDougall; secretary, Anna Searles; conductress, Susan Searles; associate conductress, Ethie Earsley. The charter members were: Lenore (Mrs. Vincent) Holton, Ida (Mrs. Joe G.) Marek, Anna Searles, Helen Searles, Grace (Mrs. Fred) Holton, Eva Webber, Nora Johnson, Joseph G. Marek, Vincent Holton, Susan (Mrs De Wane) Searles, Irene (Mrs. Ed. F.) Webber, Mary (Mrs. D. W.) McDougall, Clara Woodruff, Ida (Mrs. Alex.) Scott, Ava Holton, Flora (Mrs. Carl) Houghton, Ethie (Mrs. D. E.) Earsley, Hazelle Westover, Tillie (Mrs. Henry A.) Stephen, Harry A. Stephen, William P. Holton, Frank Blodgett, Alexander Scott, Fred A. Holton and Dougal McDougall. Delbert E. Earsley and Irvin E. Scott joined shortly afterward.

The Elgin Branch of the Wabasha County American Red Cross was organized May 25, 1917, and as Wabasha County was not yet organized for Red Cross purposes, Elgin worked with Olmsted County Chapter at Rochester. The officers elected were: Mrs. John Walch, chairman; Mrs. Walter Bleifuss, secretary, and Mrs. John Kettner, treasurer. In September, 1917, it was voted to become a branch of the Wabasha County Chapter, and another election was held whereby Mrs. John Walch was retained as chairman, Mrs. D. J. Whipple became vice-chairman, Mrs. Fred Holton secretary, and Mrs. John Kettner treasurer. Mrs. John Kettner and Anne Searles were added to the executive committee. At the annual meeting in 1918 Mrs. George Barden, Mrs. Frank Gillooly, Mrs. Fred Holton, Mrs. A. L. Kimber and Anne Searles were elected executive committee. This committee elected the following officers for 1918: Helen B. Searles, chairman; Mrs. George Barden, vice-chairman; Nora Johnson, secretary, and John Kettner, treasurer. The special committees were as follows: Sewing: Mrs. John Siem (chairman). Surgical: Mrs. John Walch. Refugee Work: Mrs. B. S. Ordway. Knitting: Mrs. Lenora Filkins, Mrs. John Kettner and Anne Searles. At the annual meeting in October, 1919, the executive committee elected was composed of Mrs. Frank Gillooly, Mrs. Fred Holton, Mrs. R. W. Richardson and Nora Johnson. This committee elected the following officers for 1920: Helen B. Searles, chairman; Mrs. Gillooly, vice-chairman; Nora Johnson, secretary, and John Kettner, treasurer. The work was continued from May, 1917, until no more was called for, and the records show that the branch completed 861 pairs of knitted socks, 296 sweaters, and 112 other knitted articles. The branch had some knitters who deserve special mention: Mrs. Jo. Richardson, 84 years of age, knit many pairs of socks, besides other articles. Mrs. James Patchin, over 70, also helped much. Mrs. Julius Bartz, over 70, knitted more than 70 pairs of socks. Mrs. Emma Ellsworth, over 70, became totally blind during the time of war work, but stopped knitting only as long as she was seriously ill, adding many pairs of socks to her credit after her sight was gone. Another who knit several pairs of socks, though totally blind, was Marie Zalel. In the sewing department 621 articles were made, including many different kinds. Much of this work was done in the homes, and for several weeks the house of Mrs. John Siem, chairman of the



sewing department, was used nearly every day by workers. In the Surgical Department 9,943 articles were made. Much credit for this work is given Mrs. John Walch, who gave much time, work and money, going to Wabasha to prepare herself to take charge of and teach the work, all of which was done under her supervision. Three hundred and eighty-three towels, sheets, napkins, and other articles, were made and sent to hospitals. One thousand and ten gun-wipers were made, mostly by pupils of the public schools. The new and used articles collected and sent to refugees in Europe, and to northern Minnesota fire sufferers, numbered 1,377, and money was also sent. From the date of organization up to January 1, 1920, the amount of money raised was nearly \$3,800. Many money-making schemes were used, among them an Old-Time Dance, which was in charge of the men. A Home Talent Play was given by the women. Another successful plan was devised, by which every citizen was given a chance to help. A committee of six women canvassed the village, asking each one called on to pledge a certain amount for each of the six succeeding months, this money to be used for material for work. On the first of each month the committee went out collecting, and about \$150 a month was collected, only a few pledges being broken. Some work was done by Eastern Star members for the O. E. S. Patriotic League. The business men did many things to help, and by the co-operation of all the workers, Elgin Branch of the Wabasha County A. R. C. never failed to "go over the top" in everything it was asked to do.

**The Old Settlers' Perpetual Union of Whitewater Valley**, with headquarters at Elgin, has been an important factor in binding together the old settlers and their families, and keeping alive those early traditions which otherwise would be rapidly fading into forgetfulness. The Union had its beginning with an informal meeting of Old Settlers held at Elgin, February 19, 1855. I. W. Rollins was chosen chairman and Charles S. Richardson, secretary. George Farrar, O. T. Dickerman and Curtis Bryant were appointed a committee to draw up constitution and by-laws. The committee appointed to arrange for the regular meeting to be held February 28, 1885, consisted of I. W. Rollins, Ezra Dickerman, Enoch Dickerman, Perry Whiting, S. B. Evans, George Evans and D. F. Ferguson. The early meetings were held in February of each year. Beginning with June, 1893, the annual picnic and meeting has been held in June. All the meetings have been successful. In 1890, owing to the prevalence of the influenza, then called la grippe, the meeting was poorly attended, and in 1917, owing to war conditions. The presidents of the association have been: 1885, George Farrar; 1888, H. C. Woodruff; 1889, A. N. Whiting; 1891, I. W. Rollins; 1894, John Q. Richardson; 1895, O. T. Dickerman; 1898, Enoch Dickerman (died Aug. 22, 1898, and succeeded by Alexander Scott, appointed); 1899, Alexander Scott; 1900, Curtiss Bryant; 1902, George Farrar; 1905, Dr. T. W. Adams; 1906, Charles S. Richardson, to the present time. The vice-presidents have been: 1885, I. W. Rollins; 1886, John Q. Richardson; 1887, Enoch Dickerman; 1888, William H. Teller; 1889, Enoch Dickerman; 1891, John Q. Richardson; 1893, Dr. W. T. Adams; 1894, O. T. Dickerman; 1895, Ezra Dickerman; 1897, Enoch Dickerman; 1898, C. A. Butterfield; 1899, Ferd. Hample; 1902, Gilman Robinson; 1903, J. K. Mc——; 1904, Charles S. Richardson; 1906, George Farrar; 1907, John Q. Richardson; 1908, Alex. Scott; 1910, Dr. W. T. Adams; 1918, C. H. Siem. The secretaries have been: 1885, O. T. Dickerman; 1888, Curtiss Bryant; 1900, Moses Ross; 1903, Alexander Scott; 1905, Curtiss Bryant; 1906, Ralph W. Richardson, to the present time. The treasurers have been: 1885, William Searles; 1888, I. W. Rollins; 1889, William Searles; 1892, Joseph Richardson; 1894, Enoch Dickerman; 1897, John Q. Richardson; 1906, Alex. Scott; 1908, Dr. W. T. Adams; 1910, Alex. Scott; 1919, Clarence E. Dickerman.

A meeting to form the Elgin Cemetery Association was held May 11, 1863, J. Q. Richardson acting as chairman and R. S. Stillman as secretary. Three trustees were elected: Joseph Richardson to serve three years, H. Stanchfield,



two years, and D. F. Ferguson, one year. A tract of land of two acres and ten rods was deeded to the Cemetery Association May, 1864, by Mr. Rollins, for a consideration of twenty-five dollars. According to local tradition, the death of 26 persons who are buried here occurred before the date of the transfer. The first few burials, it is said, were made near the site of the first schoolhouse, and the bodies were afterwards moved to this plot. It is also thought that burials were made here before the transfer. The first three deaths of people who are now buried in this cemetery were as follows: Matilda Bryant, May 27, 1856 (this was the first death in the township); Mary E. Stanchfield, December 2, 1857, and Wilbur B. Emerson, September 28, 1859. The cemetery is still owned and controlled by the Association started in 1863, each owner of a lot being entitled to one vote. At the annual meeting held March 25, 1899, steps were taken to secure proper care for the cemetery by levying an assessment of \$2.00 a lot to pay for needed improvements, and this plan in its general features has been followed ever since, though the amount of the assessment has varied from time to time. At the same time the ladies were invited to form an organization to assist in the work, which they did, the Ladies' Cemetery Association of Elgin being organized April 15, 1899, with Mrs. J. W. Bryant, president; Mrs. D. W. Searles, secretary; Mrs. O. T. Dickerman, treasurer; Helen Searles, first vice-president, and Fannie Davis, second vice-president. The object of the ladies' association was to improve the appearance of the cemetery in any and every way most needed. The first year about \$150 was raised by giving entertainments, socials and the annual dues of twenty-five cents. This society keeps up the flower beds, has planted many ornamental shrubs, and placed urns in several places, besides helping the Elgin Cemetery Association to buy more land, build the fence, and keep the cemetery mowed.

**The Elgin Cyclone** of July 21, 1883, was an event never to be forgotten in this vicinity. Contemporaneous accounts of the event in the newspapers of the time, give a complete description of the devastation wrought.

No warning of the catastrophe was given. For some days the weather had been unsettled with light rains. The morning of Saturday, July 21, was somewhat cloudy. Nothing untoward happened in the forenoon, and at noon the people betook themselves to dinner. About this time the skies commenced to darken, the rain to fall, the wind to rise and the thunder to roll, and people began to quicken their steps in order to seek shelter from what they imagined would prove to be an ordinary midsummer thunder and rainstorm. Fortunate for them it was that they did so; fortunately it was that the school was closed; providential it was that the devastating wind struck the village at a time when nearly all the people had reached their homes, and together with their wives and children, had been afforded a few seconds' time in which to fly for refuge to their cellars.

At about 12:10 the furious wind burst upon the village; with the pent-up force of whirlwind and tornado, hurricane and cyclone combined, lashed up to a degree of fury hitherto wholly unknown in this section of the country. Whirling, twisting, wrenching and tearing, it broke upon the defenseless village, and in less than two minutes' time literally blew it to atoms. So wholly unexpected was the occurrence that there was no time for the exercise of any thought save that of personal safety, and but barely time for that. In far less time than it takes to write it, the prosperous little village was a scene of dire wreck and desolation. Within the brief space of two minutes' time whole rows of buildings were leveled to the ground, some piled on top of others; houses lifted up bodily by the force of the wind, overturned, and their inmates violently thrown out and injured; other houses crushed and actually ground to pieces; acres of crops throughout the town laid waste; large trees twisted off at the trunk, five feet from the ground, leaving the roots in the soil; every business house in the place wrecked or unroofed; horses, cows and other cattle mangled and killed, and some of these, together with heavy timber from the lumber-



yard, parts of buildings and other weighty articles, picked up by the wind, lifted high in the air, and sent whirling through space, to come crashing to the earth at forty rods and more distant. The general line the storm took through the town was from about west to east, bearing slightly toward the north, nor was its greatest degree of force attained until it reached the village of Elgin, where it burst and scattered in different directions.

Almost immediately after the storm, the sun shone out bright and clear, but soon the clouds again appeared, and a heavy rain added to the discomfort of the people, all that day and night and the next day.

The arrival of the 1 P. M. train going north to Plainview was the first means the inhabitants of Elgin had of communicating the terrible news of the disaster to the outside world, the telegraph poles and wires being blown down for the distance of about a mile and a half, and the electrical elements having affected the wires as far north as Plainview. At about 1:30 P. M. E. T. Rollins, who was then telegraph operator at the Elgin office, in the railroad depot, by going along the track to about a mile south of the village, managed to make connections with the broken wires and telegraph the fact of the occurrence to Eyota, and by these means was the news first made known. The response was as generously and promptly made as it was needed; money, clothing, food, merchandise and lumber from different parts of the northwest was sent in by kind hearts, to be received by willing and thankful hands. The afternoon train from Plainview brought at least two hundred persons from that place to the scene of the disaster, eager to render all the immediate assistance so needful, while from all portions of the adjoining country people began to pour into the unfortunate village and help in the work of clearing away the wreck and aid in providing means of shelter for the homeless. The injured received all the attention and care possible from a big-hearted, whole-souled people, and before night arrived there were none but who had at least been temporarily provided for. As soon as some of the leading citizens could be assembled together a relief committee was organized, composed of Elijah Ordway, Alex. Scott, H. G. Richardson, Dr. W. T. Adams and Dorr Dickerman.

The people of Plainview and neighboring towns entered into the good work with remarkable generosity and enterprise, and at a meeting held in the Methodist Episcopal church at Plainview that night upward of \$200 in cash was raised for immediate use. Early next morning a large delegation of men volunteered their services, came to Elgin and labored all day in the rain in the work of providing shelter for the houseless, and helping to save much of the perishable goods that stood exposed to the weather.

The only person killed was Mrs. Z. S. Thayer, about thirty-five years of age, and a native of Elgin. She kept a millinery store on Park street, adjoining the drug store occupied by A. L. Kimber. Mrs. Thayer was found lying partly across the counter, crushed beneath the roof. Her little girl, Maud, was found in the ruins, under a counter, unharmed. Edith Dillon, aged about twenty, had her skull fractured; William Bowen, seventy-six years of age, had a thigh broken, and John Townsend's child, about eight years old, was injured about the spine. R. W. Chapman, A. L. Kimber, and a few others, were more or less injured.

A detailed description of the damage wrought by the storm gives something of a picture of the development that had been reached in Elgin and vicinity up to that time.

On Park street, the principal business street, which runs east and west, across the railroad track, stood a large two-story frame building, owned by E. O. Morton, the first floor of which was occupied by Frank Ressler as a meat market and F. A. Amsden as a harness-shop, and the second by R. W. Chapman as a dwelling. Here, no doubt, was the most miraculous escape in the whole disaster. The building was completely wrecked, and yet four persons, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman and Edith and Hattie Dillon, were thrown out with the wreck



and escaped with their lives; two of the four only, Edith Dillon and R. W. Chapman, being injured, as before stated. On the same side of the street were two one-story frame buildings, one belonging to and occupied as a dwelling by Frank Ressler, and the other owned by A. Y. Felton, of Plainview, and occupied by Thomas C. Udell as an agricultural machinery warehouse. The front of Ressler's dwelling was thrown ten or twelve feet off the foundation and the building partly unroofed, while Felton's was racked nearly to pieces. On the other side of the street the storm played similar havoc. The two-story frame building belonging to George Bryant, the lower part of which was occupied by Mrs. Z. S. Thayer as a millinery store, and the upper floor by John M. Townsend and family as a dwelling, was left a total wreck, as was also the other two-story frame building next door, owned by Richardson Bros., and occupied by A. L. Kimber as a drug store and dwelling. Mrs. Kimber saved herself and child by seeking the security of the cellar; but Mr. Kimber and John M. Townsend's family escaped by mere chance. Mr. Kimber was caught between the two buildings, which stood not over two feet apart, and it was with difficulty that he was extricated from the debris unharmed.

Mr. Townsend's family, like Mr. Chapman's across the way, were indoors at the time the house was struck. They were not thrown out, however, but came down with the wreck, and with the exception of the one child mentioned landed safe and sound. Mrs. Thayer, who was in the store below, met her death as already stated. A little farther west, on the same street, stood E. Ordway's new two-story frame building, the lower part of which was used by Ordway, Dickerman & Co., as a storeroom, and the upper floor as the lodge-room of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. and A. M. This entire building was destroyed. Ordway, Dickerman & Co.'s hardware store was unroofed, and the second story of Frank Kiernan's saloon and billiard-room blown off, while Bryant Bros. & Johnson's large store, which had but lately been occupied by A. Ludke, was badly racked, and the second story partly blown down. The railroad station depot received but slight damages. The north end of J. W. Bryant & Co.'s grain elevator was demolished, and the structure racked. Richardson Bros.' grain elevator was slightly damaged, their lumber office and sheds were all down, and much of the lumber in the sheds picked up by the wind and scattered in every direction. Van Dusen & Co.'s coal-sheds near the depot were a total wreck, and E. Meilke's Northwestern Hotel, west of the station, was partly unroofed and badly used up. Fred. Meyer's blacksmith shop on Grain street, and Henry Claussen's house and barn on Van Dusen street were completely destroyed. H. G. Richardson & Co.'s house, occupied by A. Meilke, had the front torn off and was otherwise damaged, while Henry Claussen's shoe-shop was not greatly injured. Capt. J. B. Norton's house opposite was racked, chimney down, stable and outbuildings leveled to the ground, hay lost and buggy broken to pieces.

This includes all of the buildings on Park street, and those north of Park street and west of the railroad track. Another street about as greatly devastated as Park street was Main street, which is in the eastern part of the village, running north and south. Commencing on this street where it is crossed by Dry creek, the bridge over which was torn to pieces, the first house, that of David Houghton, which was somewhat damaged, and a fine barn completely demolished. The next place is that of Benjamin H. Gould, which fared somewhat better, but was racked, a post from David Houghton's barn crashing through its north side. Mark Richardson's outhouses, sheds and stables were all demolished. At W. B. Porter's and W. H. Gilman's, trees two and a half feet through were broken off near the ground and thrown in all directions. The houses were not greatly damaged. Mr. Porter's barn was completely ruined, and a corner of Mr. Gilman's house was badly broken from the fall of a large tree. The corner of Main and Center streets, where stood William Bowen's house and barn, was swept clean. A few pieces of boards and a few sections



of roofing scattered pell-mell, together with a few broken articles of furniture, were all that was left to indicate that a dwelling once stood on the gaping cellar. Mr. Bowen was alone in the house when the storm struck it. He was picked up unconscious on the road, covered with mud and sand. Further southward on Main street is the residence of John M. Houghton; the house was partly unroofed and badly racked, barn unroofed and outbuildings completely destroyed. On the corner of Main and Mill streets stood the store of H. G. Richardson & Co., where the postoffice was also situated. The new main part of this building was unroofed, and the back part badly racked, and the barn back of it completely demolished. Mrs. Woodward's dwelling across the way, owned by H. G. Richardson & Co., escaped as free from injuries, probably, as any house in town, as did also the blacksmith-shop south of it owned by Richardson Bros., and occupied by Mercer Bros.; but the next building, which was also the property of Richardson Bros., and occupied as a wagon-shop by Alex. Scott, was unroofed and several new carriages badly damaged. The residences of Charles S. Richardson, E. O. Morton and Mrs. Seeley, then occupied by William Baker, on Mill street, were comparatively uninjured. John Graham's house escaped very fortunately. The trees were so badly broken, that at first one had to cut his way to it with an ax, but the house was all right. George Farrar's old house, occupied by Fred. Westover, was unroofed, and the second story partly torn down, and Dr. W. T. Adams, south of this, had his barn and outbuildings completely demolished and his house slightly racked. Opposite were E. W. Westover, whose house was pushed back six or eight feet from the foundation, and F. A. Amsden, living in a house belonging to Richardson Bros., which was unroofed and had one corner blown off.

South street runs east and west along the southern boundary of the village plat. On the north side of the street, and just west of the railroad track, stood the large barn owned by George Bryant, which was almost entirely demolished. The residence in front of it escaped with but slight damages, as did also Mary Ann Bryant's residence; but her other house, occupied by Fred Meyers, was left half unroofed. Dorr Dickerman's new house, just enclosed, was laid flat on the ground, but the Congregational parsonage, which he occupied, received no material damage. The Methodist church, a beautiful little edifice which cost about four thousand dollars, was a total ruin, hardly a stick left standing, but the parsonage on the lot adjoining, occupied by Rev. J. W. Stebbins, escaped with partial damages. George Farrar's fine barn and sheds were unroofed and some of his outbuildings blown down, but his house weathered the storm very well. N. H. Moody's house escaped comparatively uninjured, but the handsome and commodious schoolhouse south of it, at the head of School street, was a complete wreck. E. Ordway's residence was but little damaged, but the Eureka House, north of it on School street, owned by Thomas Mathieson and managed by M. H. Safford, was considerably racked. The southern portion of the building was shoved back twelve feet from the foundation, and the barn leveled to the earth. Farther east on South street, on the bank of the White-water, lay the wreck of Charles S. Richardson's barn and windmill, and just east of this, on the north side of the street, was a most remarkable example of the unparalleled force of the wind. Alex. Scott's residence, a strong story-and-a-half frame building, on a stone foundation, was built here on rising land overlooking the village. It was taken up bodily from its foundation by the wind, turned upside down and hurled through the air with tremendous force a distance of several rods, when it was dashed to the earth. Mr. Scott, who, with his wife and child, had sought refuge in the cellar, suddenly found themselves exposed to the beating rain, their house having been lifted off their heads with as much ease as if it had been made of paper.

These details of the ruin in the village give but a partial view of the real devastation. Trees were mangled and twisted in all sorts of shapes and felled to the ground, window-panes shattered, shutters broken, shingles torn off and



scattered, the chimneys all down, fences laid low, plank walks torn up, and all along the streets and on the vacant lots the ground strewn with broken lumber, shingles, pillows, bed quilts, household utensils, clothing, fragments of furniture, in fact a mixed assortment of anything and everything.

The one-story house occupied by Mrs. Proctor and owned by Charles S. Richardson, east of the village, was unroofed and about half a story torn off. The house of Lucien Metcalf was half wrecked, his barn and cribs unroofed, his hay-sheds all torn to pieces and the place mangled up generally. Walter Dunn's house was racked and his barns unroofed. The hay-sheds and windmills of O. V. and I. W. Rollins, Joseph and H. G. Richardson were all more or less damaged, and Abner Smith's granary, sheds and corn-cribs were down flat. George Wedge's barn received some damages. H. D. Wedge lost a mile and a half of fence. J. E. Brown had his barn, granary and sheds blown over. J. R. Hunter lost his stable, and a few others suffered to a greater or less extent as far as Jacob Haessig's farm.

Half a mile west of the village was the farm of Curtis Bryant. He lost a large barn, together with corn-cribs and other buildings, while four of his horses and two colts were killed. One of the colts, a three-year-old, was taken by the wind from in front of his house and carried north about forty rods, over fences and buildings, and found dead. Col. W. H. Feller's barn was unroofed, house damaged, granary moved off the foundation, and another building down flat. Frank M. Bigelow's large barn was down to the plates and partly moved on the foundation, the house considerably damaged and windmill blown to pieces. Fred C. Hartson's house, occupied by Judson Hudson, was taken by the wind thirty feet from its foundation and utterly demolished, but Mr. Hudson, his wife, child and sister escaped from the flying debris safe and sound. A place occupied by Mrs. Amelia Drake had a stable and granary blown down, besides trees destroyed. William Tornow, tenant on William Brown's farm, suffered severely, and Mr. Brown had a barn and granary demolished, containing 400 bushels of oats, 150 bushels of wheat and 15 tons of hay, which were all destroyed. The storm made terrible havoc among his trees and timber. At this point there appeared to be a succession of storms constantly forming, which spread out nearly two miles in width. H. G. Richardson & Co.'s house west of this, Gus Warner, tenant, had the barn and granary blown down, besides trees badly damaged. Charles Dobbins had his stable, swine-house and granary blown down, house partly wrecked and partly unroofed, his stock hurt and trees badly injured. A plank 2 by 6 inches, broken from a hay-rake, was carried from about 150 feet southeast of the house and crushed a hole through the west side of the house. The granary of Harrison Rice was blown down and his stable destroyed. He lost thirty tons of hay and twelve acres of corn, and his house was partly unroofed. Henry C. Woodruff had his barn blown down, which was a great loss, as he had water-works in the barn attached to his windmill, which was also blown down. His house was partly unroofed, and his loss in timber and fruit-trees was almost irreparable, as it had taken him nearly twenty years to grow them. Pursuing farther westward, the following damage was wrought by the relentless wind: William Cook, machine-shed and corn-crib injured, wagonhouse, henhouse and windmill down, roof on barn moved, and fine grove destroyed. William Searles, barn unroofed, corn-crib and stable partly unroofed, hay and machine sheds and windmill torn down, seventy-five tons of hay destroyed, and thirty acres of timber badly damaged. August Swanke, house badly racked and shingles torn off, barn partly unroofed, granary, shed and stable destroyed. A. B. Hart, house, machine-house and sheds blown down, and fifteen acres of timber damaged. Mrs. Hart and child escaped by going down to the cellar. E. Raymond, a tool-house, 45 by 60, and a cow-shed and stable, 25 by 200, blown down. On another place he lost two houses and a barn, seventy tons of hay and a windmill, and had forty acres of timber destroyed. A. Park, barn unroofed, sheds partly unroofed, hoghouse moved, henhouse



destroyed. H. Southwick, barn unrooted, sheds down and five acres of timber destroyed. Mr. Patrick, stable blown down and house injured. M. Nash, house partly unroofed and the furniture damaged. Mr. Fitch's shade-trees down, and a number of cherry-trees torn out by the roots. A. Demke, granary badly broken up. James W. Finney, on Mr. Taylor's farm, house partly unroofed and moved off the foundation, and barn, granary and corn-crib wrecked. August Barrent, on Henry Dewitz' place, lost everything he had. The house, two granaries and barn were demolished, all the furniture destroyed and clothing blown away. Mr. Barrent and family were caught up by the wind and hurled skyward with the flying debris,—one of the boys being carried by the wind southeast about forty feet, then northwest about sixty feet and south twenty feet, landing him in a wood-pile; then he was seized again and carried about twenty-five feet and left in a ditch. Another boy was carried about sixty feet and dropped in a small creek. Neither was much hurt. John Twitten, hay and sheep sheds blown down, besides a hoghouse, 16 by 80, and the house partly unroofed. Thomas Brooks' farm, occupied by Joseph Hines: the house was carried from the foundation fifteen or twenty feet, where it struck a willow-tree, and was hurled about six feet beyond the tree, that keeping it from entirely falling, only a part of it being blown off. The family were in the house, and the tree keeping the building from falling doubtless saved their lives, although some were quite badly hurt. The barn, sheep-shed, 30 by 40, granary and hoghouse, 16 by 80, were destroyed. At another farm, owned by Thomas Brooks, a granary was blown down. The Fitch schoolhouse was laid perfectly flat, the bell alone remaining to show the site. Duane W. Searles' buildings were partly down, while F. Bennike lost his barn, granary and part of his house. W. H. White, barn blown down, granary injured, shingles torn off the house and the windmill blown down. A hired man in the barn was carried with it, being injured about the head. A horse was hurt, fences on one side of the farm carried off, and the fruit-trees nearly all destroyed. Forty tons of hay were scattered. A. B. Stacy, house racked, chimneys blown down, wagonhouse, granary and hay-sheds leveled, and buggy and machinery broken, fences and thirty tons of hay blown away. Amos Welch, windmill torn to pieces. Harry Dodge, fruit-trees injured and hay blown away. S. Snow, house partly unroofed and kitchen blown down; barn, hay-sheds and stable entirely destroyed, machinery, wagon and cutter demolished and hay blown away. The two houses, barns, sheds, granary and machine-house of D. M. and F. G. Harvey were laid flat, not a vestige of the building being left. Their hay was blown away, machinery broken and crops destroyed. Fred and James Harvey's house was swept down, Mrs. Harvey being caught and held by timbers, but fortunately but little hurt. George Harvey's windmill and three sheds were blown over. On the Dieter place, occupied by E. F. Dodge, the house was carried eighty-five feet, and the L demolished. Mrs. Dodge, with her baby and girl ten years old, ran down the cellar as soon as the doors of the house blew open, and Mr. Dodge started for the same place with another little girl, but did not reach it, being carried away with the house, luckily escaping injury. After the storm was over one of his boys crept from the debris of the L unhurt.

The stone schoolhouse on the Lake City road was almost entirely demolished. Then still further, the storm continued, carrying it out of Wabasha County.

A month later the "Rochester Cyclone" swept over the country, but did no damage in Elgin and the immediate vicinity.

After the Elgin Cyclone the work of reconstruction started, and a better, larger village soon arose on the ruins.

#### ELGIN TOWNSHIP.

**Elgin Township** is well situated in that part of southeastern Minnesota known as Greenwood Prairie. It is one of the two most southern townships in Wabasha County, Plainview being the other. It is bounded on the east by



Plainview, on the south by Viola in Olmsted County, on the west by Farmington in Olmsted County, and on the north by Oakwood and a very small portion of Zumbro.

The quality of the soil of this town is excellent; a rich, dark loam, with sufficient sand mixed in with it to create that degree of warmth so necessary to productiveness; while the land, viewed from an elevation, as it gradually rises and falls in rolling prairie as far as the eye can reach, reminding the spectator of the huge billows of the far-distant ocean. Its productive soil and pleasant location, with a surface sufficiently undulating to secure excellent natural drainage, renders Elgin's agricultural advantages of the best. The north branch of the Whitewater River enters the town from Olmsted County at section 33, and flows in about a northeasterly direction through section 33, and across the northwest corner of section 34 into section 27, south of the village of Elgin, when it takes an easterly course through sections 27, 26 and 25, into the town of Plainview. This stream, together with Dry creek, which empties into the north branch of the Whitewater on section 27, drains the southern part of the town, while the streams in the northern part are tributary to the Zumbro. The town is fairly well timbered in different portions, the number of trees, since settlement has prevented the forest fires, having increased both by natural growth and by the planting of wind-breaks and shade trees. The largest grove is located near the center of the township.

The first settlers in this immediate vicinity were George Bryant, Henry H. Atherton, Curtis Bryant and George Farrar, who landed from a steamboat at Winona, came up across that county to St. Charles, and then found their way onto the borders of the marvelously rich Greenwood Prairie, arriving about April 8, 1855.

Little wonder that these hardy pioneers who, with the exception of George Farrar, who had lived a while in Beloit, came directly from Vermont, where they had been cradled by the side of gurgling brooks, and had watched the grazing cattle on the rugged hillsides, while they were lulled to sleep at night by the hum of whirring spindles, as the good wives and mothers, changed the fleecy wool into the home spun garments with which they were clothed, should see in the broad acres that stretched out before them as they entered the beautiful valley, the promised land which had been the burden of their thoughts and dreams, and caused them to plant their stakes, and declare this to be their future homes, where the thriving village of Elgin is now located.

It was nearly sundown when they halted by a bubbling spring that sung its merry song as its sparkling waters hurried to join the current of the nearby Whitewater, and attracted by it, decided to make this spot their first abode, and began to prepare for the night. The glorious April sunset painted the landscape in splendor of gold and carmine, while a gentle breeze tossed the dry grass that covered the broad acres in every direction, into wavelets that reflected the silvery sheen of the last rays of sunshine that seemed reluctant to close the draperies, as the twilight deepened into night.

They gathered a few faggots from a nearby grove, and kindled the first camp fire that was destined to mark the beginning of a settlement, which in the very near future must become one of the garden spots in the almost limitless northwest. Little did our four first settlers reckon as they prepared their frugal meal, and spread out their blankets on the virgin soil of the beautiful valley of the Whitewater, what part they were playing in the history making of the great state of Minnesota, then a territory, so soon to become an important factor in shaping the destinies of our great American republic. Wearied with their long march across the trackless prairies, they sank to slumber on their new made beds under the canopy of the starry sky, with no fear of wild beasts or prowling Indians, they were lulled to sleep by the gently sighing wind, and slept through the night, to awaken as the first streaks of light heralded another day. As the aurora heralded the approaching sunrise, the air was vibrant with



the twittering of myriads of feathered songsters, and the deep sonorous boom, boom, boom of the prairie chicken as the haughty male bird struts back and forth near their brooding grounds, puffing his gills, and omitting the deep sonorous booming, never to be forgotten by the early settlers.

With the dawn of another day, no time was to be lost, and soon the nearby groves were made to resound with the lively tune played with the shining axes as chips flew, and the enthusiastic group under the direction of George Farrar erected a log cabin shingled with elm bark. This cabin, built on the claim of Henry H. Atherton, was located between the present eastern terminus of Elgin's principal street, and the Whitewater River. It served not only as a dwelling place for the pioneers who built it, but also as a shelter for many of the early settlers who came later.

On April 21, 1855, three of these original settlers staked filed on the claims which they had selected for their future farms. The claims of George and Curtis Bryant embraced nearly all the present village plat, the former having the northwest quarter of section 27, while the latter had the northeast quarter of section 28. Henry H. Atherton took the northwest quarter of section 34. George Farrar chose a quarter section claim, consisting of eighty acres in section 26 and eighty acres in section 27, but did not file on it. In the fall he filed on some timberland consisting of the east half of the southwest quarter of section 17. Immediately after securing his claim, George Bryant returned to his native state of Vermont for his family, and came back to Elgin in May of the same year, bringing his family, as well as Leonard Laird and family. Mrs. Bryant and Mrs. Laird were therefore the first women in the community.

The settlement was augmented in June of the same year, with the arrival of Henry H. Stanchfield and family, Carlos B. Emerson and family, E. L. Clapp and wife, Byron A. Glines and wife. In October, John Bryant and wife, parents of George and Curtis Bryant, arrived with several other members of the family and took a claim. These people named probably constituted the entire population of the little community when fall merged into winter. Additional log cabins had followed the first one, and while in some instances several families found it necessary to share a single cabin, all were at least sheltered. A few made trips back East. It is said that during the absence in Vermont of George Farrar, Leonard Laird "jumped" his claim in sections 26 and 27. When Mr. Farrar returned he brought with him his brother, Waldo, who was afterward killed at the Battle of Gettysburg.

The little settlement grew considerably in 1856. Early in March, Orvis V. Rollins and Irving W. Rollins came over from Plainview and settled on sections 22 and 27. William D. Woodward came a little later and settled on a claim in section 33, that he had selected the previous year. Others also took claims, all being from the Eastern states and most of them from Vermont. These people themselves called their settlement "Paradise," happy in the wonderful opportunities of the new homes they had found. But for many miles around, the other settlers referred to this community as the "Yankee Settlement."

The year of 1856 did much to justify the high hopes entertained by these good people. The rich soil gave promise of abundant crops, and a fair acreage of land was broken and planted. More cabins were erected, shacks put up for the cattle, and even a few fences constructed.

The cabins were for the most part overcrowded, one small single-room cabin sometimes accommodating several good sized families of parents and growing children, furnishing lodging as well for a few visiting friends. It seemed imperative, therefore, that there should be a special place for the lodging of travelers and land-seekers. To supply this need, George and Waldo Farrar erected on the northwest quarter of section 28, the first frame house in the township. This house, George Farrar opened as a tavern, and continued to entertain travelers until 1860.



To this little community on the banks of the Whitewater, far from native state and former friends, came the usual vicissitudes of birth, and death and love. June 30, 1856, a son Arthur D. was born to Byron A. and Zalma M. Glines. This promising youngster, who was the first white native of Elgin Township, died five years later. On August 13, 1856, the first courtship in the little community ripened into marriage, when George Farrar and Emeline Bryant, the daughter of John and Lavina Bryant, were united in wedlock at Winona. Earlier in the year, on May 27, the bride's parental home had been saddened by the death of her sister, Matilda, at the age of nearly thirty years. Her funeral marked the first public religious services in the town and were conducted by Elder Blunt, from the Tumbleson Neighborhood, so called, in Haverhill Township. In the same year Elder Lord, a Methodist Episcopal clergyman, held services at the home of George Bryant. The next year, Rev. Jonathan Cochrane, a Congregational clergyman, held services at the same home.

The first political meeting in the township was held in August, 1856, to choose delegates to go to Winona for the purpose of nominating candidates for seats in the Territorial Legislature. One of the delegates was Irving W. Rollins, who attended the convention held at Winona, Sept. 1, of that year. Oct. 14, 1856, the election took place at Greenville, not far from what is now Plainview, voters attending from the present towns of Plainview, Elgin, Highland and Oakwood. County and precinct officers, as well as representatives to the Territorial Legislature were voted upon.

On May 11, 1858, a meeting was held at the house of John H. Pell for the purpose of town organization and the election of town officers. George Bryant was appointed moderator and Robert C. Stillman clerk, and William Brown and John H. Pell judges of election.

At this election the town was named, each voter placing on the back of his ticket his choice of a name. The whole number of votes cast was fifty-four, fifty being in favor of Elgin. Who suggested the name or why is in doubt.

The officers selected were: Supervisors, O. P. Crawford (chairman), Joseph Leatherman and William Cook; clerk, George Bryant; assessor, Robert C. Stillman; collector, C. W. Dodge; justices, I. W. Rollins and Morgan Culbertson; constables, B. H. Gould and Jasper Elliott; overseer of the poor, John H. Pell. Thirteen days after this town meeting (May 24, 1858) the first meeting of the board of supervisors was held at the house of the town clerk, and they proceeded to divide the town into the following road districts: the north half of the town to comprise road district No. 1. The southwest quarter of the town to comprise road district No. 2. The southeast quarter of the town to comprise road district No. 3. The board then appointed the following overseers of roads: William Town, district No. 1; William Brown, district No. 2; Gurden Town, district No. 3.

The first assessment of taxes was then made by this board, who levied a tax of one-half of one per cent on every dollar of the assessment roll of the previous year, as received from the office of the register of deeds for the county of Wabasha, and also taxed each man liable to the same two days' labor on roads.

The first election after the admission of Minnesota as a state was held in the fall of this year, October 12, 1858. Elgin participated in this election, which was to choose a senator and representatives to the legislature, a judge of probate, a county auditor and a coroner.

The first petition for a public road was made to the board of supervisors at their first meeting. The petition was dated May 22, 1858, and was signed by twelve persons. By order of the supervisors the proposed road was regularly surveyed by one J. A. Sawyer, and on June 16, 1858, he made his report. The day following the board examined the route, and, having found the same well suited for a public road, declared it opened as such, and ordered all fences or obstructions on the route removed by December 1, 1859. This road, the first



laid out in the town, was known as town road No. 1, and was described as follows: "Commencing on the east line of the town, at a stake one hundred and six rods north of the section stake in the southeast corner of section 13, and running routhwesterly 314 rods, to a stake in latitude forty-three and one-half degrees; thence southwest 272 rods to a stake by I. W. Rollins' land, in latitude fifty-two and one-half degrees; hence southwest 48 rods to a stake on the south side of Dry creek, in latitude twenty-one degrees; thence southwest 100 rods to a stake north of John Bryant's house forty-three degrees; thence southwest 24  $\frac{16}{25}$  rods to a stake south of George Bryant's house, in latitude forty-six and one-half degrees; thence southwest 190 rods to a stake on the south side of the Whitewater, in latitude nineteen and one-half degrees; thence southwest 40 rods to a stake in latitude twenty-nine and one-half degrees; hence southwest 80 rods to a stake in latitude twenty-eight and one-half degrees; thence southwest 84 rods to a stake by W. D. Woodward's house, in latitude twenty-nine and one-half degrees; thence southwest 29  $\frac{8}{25}$  rods to a stake by Woodward's bridge, in latitude fifty-two degrees; thence west 6 rods to a stake west of the bridge; thence southwest 106 rods to the quarter-stake in latitude twenty-eight degrees, where it meets the Olmsted County road; said road being five miles thirteen rods and twenty-four links in length."

The next road laid out ran north and south through the center of sections 5, 8, 17, 20, 29 and 32. It was designated as Town Road No. 2, and was declared by the County Board to be a public road on Aug. 21, 1858.

The first settlers on Greenwood Prairie had come from Eastern states where fruits were plentiful and preserves were considered a necessary part of the daily diet. It was natural, therefore, that they should consider with interest the possibility of obtaining fruit here. Various wild fruits and some berries were found here, crab apples, plums, strawberries, gooseberries and grapes. When these were not obtainable the good pioneer ladies sometimes made pies from sorrel and brown sugar. A pioneer in fruit growing was I. W. Rollins of Elgin. Before leaving Vermont he arranged to have some apple seed sent him at Wabasha. These seeds were planted in the town of Elgin on April 11, 1856. The trees wintered well the first two winters, and in 1858 he top-grafted some of them with shoots with scions from Vermont. In 1859 he and his brother, O. V. Rollins, planted another orchard. Some of these were grafted, but a portion of the grafted tops were winter-killed. In 1860 some seedlings were planted. In seven years from planting the seed, a few trees bore fruit, and in 1871 Mr. Rollins harvested no less than 200 bushels. In the meantime others had become interested. There were naturally many discouragements. Some of the varieties proved absolutely unsuited to the climate. Even many trees of a variety that was generally suitable succumbed to the weather of some particular winters after living through other winters that had seemed more severe. But the pioneers persevered and were rewarded, some with bearing trees suffered for home demands, and some with fair-sized orchards yielding enough for outside marketing. Among the early growers who procured trees from Mr. Rollins' first planting were George Bryant, J. Q. Richardson, Albert Glines, Henry Stanchfield, Caleb Metcalf, Enoch Dickerman, John and William Pell, James Brown, J. Baldwin, Nathan Fisher, Wesley Hill, George Sylvester, Charles Sylvester, George Harrington, A. P. Foster and Rodman Burchard.



## CHAPTER XIII.

### MAZEPPA VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP.

Mazeppa Village is the metropolis of southwestern Wabasha County. It is located in the northwestern corner of Mazeppa Township on the banks of the Zumbro River, which furnishes an excellent waterpower. Railroad service is provided by the Midland Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. The village is not only an important shipping point for this part of Wabasha and Goodhue Counties, but gains added importance from the fact that not far away is the great dam which furnishes the city of Rochester with its electric power. There is an adequate number of churches, the educational system is good, and the municipal improvements most satisfactory. The village is well laid out, the business section is progressive, and in the residence district are a number of fine homes. Shade trees and good walks add to the comfort and beauty of the place. There are two banks and a good newspaper. The principal business interests of the village, in addition to its excellent mercantile and general commercial establishments, are the two elevators; the mill for grist, owned by the village; the creamery, and the wood and iron working shop of M. J. Almeter & Son, manufacturers of hay racks, sleds and sleighs.

Mazeppa village was named from the poem, "Mazeppa," by Byron, that poem being a favorite of Ira O. Seeley, who was invited to name the village. The hamlet was founded by Joseph Ford and his son Orville D. Ford in 1855. Previous to this, in 1854, Ira O. Seeley had erected a crude temporary bark cabin west of the river near the mill dam, but had abandoned it for a claim in section 5.

In the early fifties the Ford family was living in New York State, where both Joseph and his son, Orville D., owned farms. There were two other younger sons, and it was with a view of affording these boys wider opportunities that the family decided to move to the Mississippi Valley. In 1854 Joseph Ford visited Illinois but was not pleased with the land he found available in the section he visited. The following year he determined to start for Minnesota. Accordingly the two farms were sold, and the whole family started on their pilgrimage. The women and younger members were left with relatives in Illinois, and Joseph and Orville D. came on to Minnesota. They arrived at Read's Landing in April and there met George Maxwell. Their hope was to get land not far from the Mississippi, but owing to the uncertainty of land the three men set out for the cabin of Ira O. Seeley. It was he who showed titles in the Half-Breed tract, they decided to settle further away. Therefore, them the beautiful valley of the Zumbro River.

The two Fords took the half section of section 6, east and north of the river, and erected a comfortable cabin.

Orville D. then went back to Illinois, purchased oxen and provisions and with the whole family started for the new home. From Galena they reached Read's Landing, on the "War Eagle." On the trail from Read's Landing to Mazeppa but one team had been driven. The party set out with a hired horse team and wagon, the six women and three children riding. Orville D. and Orton Ford followed with the oxen, cow and supplies. At Mazeppa they found Joseph Ford and George Maxwell. The next day the cabin was furnished, the stove set up, and civilization thus inaugurated.

In June, 1855, J. E. Hyde began the erection of a log building, at the corner of Main and Walnut streets, for a store and residence. This was completed



in September, and he returned to Galena for his family and a stock of goods. These arrived on October 1, and from that time supplies were kept here for the convenience of settlers. In the fall of 1855, Elijah Lont and his brother-in-law, Lewis Blunt, built a large house on the corner of Chestnut and First streets. Evander Skillman afterward converted a part of this into a general store. J. W. Judd was the first iron worker. He arrived August 15, 1855, built a log shop on the river bank and started the iron work for the mill. The first hotel was a house built by N. B. Smith in the fall of 1855, on the corner now occupied by Charles Colling, corner of Cherry and First streets, lot 8, block 19, southeast. Stages passed here twice a week and the traffic was heavy.

In 1856 Orville D. Ford built the house now occupied by Adam Redding, lot 4, block 22, northwest corner of Pine and First, and opened it as a hotel. Orton Ford was the first harness maker. Henry Washburn was the first shoemaker. The first doctor was O. S. Lont, who practiced here some two decades. Frank Stowell was the first resident owner of a team of horses. Lewis, son of Francis A. Stowell, was born here in the fall of 1855, and Roxie H., daughter of Enoch Young, was born December 14 of the same year. These were doubtless the first children born to white parents within the township. Zarah Cornish, Jr., a child, passed away June 1, 1856, and thus furnished occasion for the first funeral. The first cemetery was laid out on the hill east of the village, and a few were buried there. Then Orville D. Ford gave a plot of land embracing part of the present cemetery and the bodies were moved to it. The first marriage was a contract marriage between Edward Hunt and Sarah Waskey, the papers being drawn by Orville D. Ford.

The need of postal facilities was soon felt among so large a colony, and steps were taken to secure a postoffice. John E. Hyde was appointed postmaster, his commission bearing date January 2, 1856, and the Dubuque and St. Paul stages were made to pass through Mazeppa and take and supply mail. Succeeding Mr. Hyde the postmasters have been Prosper Robinson, E. L. Ford, Simon Phillips, George Maxwell, L. E. Scruby, George Squire, M. J. Rucker and N. J. Seivert.

The survey of the village plat of Mazeppa was begun soon after the site was located by the Fords. G. Maxwell was employed for this labor. During the summer the subdivision of the county was completed by government surveyors, and Mr. Maxwell's lines were found to vary but a trifle from the variation used by the United States survey, and they still stand.

Mazeppa, in 1877, the year before the railroad came through, was already a flourishing village. Writing for a special Mazeppa issue of the Wabasha County Sentinel of February 28, 1877, E. F. Hopkins says: "Whether you approach the town from the north, east or west, you see a valley containing about two hundred acres, and a handsomer one you might go far to find. We consider the view from the hill north of the town the best. As you round the point of the hill on the Red Wing road, a full view is offered of the main street (First), the churches and the north and west part of the village, while only the southeastern portion is hid by the rise of ground upon which the land reserved for a park is located, known as 'Schoolhouse Hill.' At your right is the mill-pond, now almost a lake, and farther down all the buildings of the Mill Company and the suspension bridge.

"In 1855, when Joseph Ford, in company with his son Orville, saw this valley from the brow of the hill east of town, he said, 'We will go no farther; this valley shall be our home.' Though nothing but oak brush could then be seen on the east side of the stream, and heavily-wooded timber land on the west for fifteen miles, yet he saw the prospect of health, wealth and happiness in the useful combination of wood, water and protection from cold and storms which the timber would give to a home here. Since that time the bulk of the timber has been removed in the immediate vicinity of town; yet still enough remains to satisfy the market.



"Not until the year 1876 did the village begin to attract attention from outside the circle of its regular trade, and for this reason no great effort had been put forth by its citizens to attract attention and trade or promote its growth. The immense water-power, which all knew to be of great value to the town, had never been used to a tenth of its capacity. The fact was apparent that much would depend upon the improvement of the Zumbro, and the success of the Mazeppa Mill Company was eagerly watched and talked of by all. During the winter of 1875-76 this was the theme of conversation by citizen and stranger, and all looked for business to revive and take a grand stride forward.

"The principal business of the village is now transacted by the following establishments: Mazeppa Mill Company, making six hundred barrels of flour per day; four general stores, where are retailed dry goods, clothing, groceries and boots and shoes; three groceries one of them also carrying footwear; two drug stores, one complete hardware store and tinshop, two shoeshops, two blacksmith-shops, one wagon-shop, one tailor, one hotel, one law office, one livery stable, two warehouses and grain elevators, and five saloons. A custom flourmill is in course of construction, and will be in operation with four sets of buhrs before this reaches the eye of the reader. There is also a stone-quarry and limekiln within the village limits.

"During the year 1876 the buildings and improvements of the Mill Company cost \$60,000, and those of other persons made a total of \$80,850. During the same year a business of three hundred and forty-six thousand seven hundred dollars was transacted in the following lines: drygoods stores, 3; groceries, 5; clothing, 3; boots and shoes, 4; drugs, 2; hardware, 2; furniture, 2; confectionery, 7; shoemakers, 2; blacksmith-shops, 2; tinsmith, 1; harness-shop, 1; wagon-shop, 1; lawyer, 1; hotelkeeper, 1; physician, 1; meat market, 1; livery stable, 1; millinery stores, etc.

The fire of the winter of 1890-91 wiped out several of the leading business houses of the village, and resulted in the moving of several of the business establishments to the north side of the principal business street. The first fire burned the mill, the elevator and cooper shop. In order to guard against danger from smouldering sparks, the hand engine was left in position on the river bank, with watchmen to guard it. But the watch was neglected, and when fire broke out in some grain that had been removed from the burned mill to a meat market, it was found that the engine was frozen. From the Mat Poncelot Building, in which was the market of Sands & Luskell, the fire spread to the west as far as the Taft & Munger Building, being stopped from further progress by the street. On the east it spread as far as the building occupied by Mrs. Mat Schram as a residence and millinery store. There the heroic efforts of the bucket brigade arrested the flames, and the rest of the village was saved.

The waterpower has been the vital feature in the life of Mazeppa. The Fords were attracted to this point by its possibilities in this regard, and soon after their arrival arranged for its development by offering Isaac Nichols the waterpower if he would build a mill thereon. The offer was at once accepted, and preparations were immediately made for the erection of a sawmill. This was set in operation during the winter, and timbers were at the same time prepared for a gristmill. William Amsbry became associated with Nichols in the construction of the gristmill, and subsequently bought out the latter. Amsbry & Barber completed it and began business in the fall of 1856. They were succeeded by Augustus Ambler, and the latter by the Forest Mills and Mazeppa Mill companies, and now by the village of Mazeppa.

A sawmill was built in the fall of 1856 on the main river, half a mile above the mouth of the north branch, by Alexander Somers and Rhoderick Drinkwater, and set in operation the next spring. It was kept busy night and day cutting lumber for settlers' shanties. In December, 1857, Somers' body was found in the river. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that he came to his death otherwise than by drowning. Fowl play was suspected, but there was no



evidence fastened to any one and the matter was dropped. From that time the mill was neglected, and the dam subsequently washed away.

In the spring of 1857 a sawmill was built on Trout brook by Ralph Frasier on Sleeper's claim, section 9. After the settlers began to seek for pine lumber, the dam was neglected and washed away. The mill was purchased by A. H. Bright with the land on which it stood and was used for a time by Bright's sons for the manufacture of beekeepers' supplies, steam being used to drive their machinery.

In 1858 a distillery was built about halfway between the present upper and lower bridges in the village by Loyd, Robi & Franklin, and the manufacture of whisky was carried on there till 1862. Isaac T. Nichols then built farther up the stream and removed the machinery thither, and the first distillery was torn down. Nichols shortly built a mill on Trout brook. Augustus Ambler bought the distillery and tore out its machinery, which he removed to his mill. He paid eight hundred dollars for the property in order to stop the manufacture of whisky here, and refused to sell it, lest it be turned to the same use again. The Trout brook mill changed hands several times, and has long since been swept away by flood.

The Mazeppa Roller Mills Company was organized in 1876 with a capital of \$175,000, and the flowage rights and several buildings acquired. The company was composed of L. F. Hubbard (president and treasurer), O. D. Ford (secretary), W. S. Wells (general manager), and William P. Brown (resident manager). A dam of 26 feet depth was built on the solid bed rock, and a frame mill built, 56 by 72 feet and four stories high. In 1878 an addition 60 by 70 feet was made for engine and boiler rooms. In 1881 the buhrstones were removed and forty sets of rolls installed for making patent flour. In 1883 an elevator was built near the mill with a capacity of 100,000 bushels. For a time the mill consumed 3,000 bushels of wheat daily and daily turned out 600 barrels of flour. The product had a good demand throughout the New England states and in such British centers as London, Liverpool and Glasgow.

In addition to the elevator at Mazeppa, ten elevators and warehouses were established along the Zumbro river and 100 railroad cars operated to bring the grain from these establishments to Mazeppa.

When the Mazeppa elevator was built, John W. Kingsley was made the buyer, and he was also given charge of the other elevators along the line as they were built. Later he succeeded Mr. Brown as general manager of the mill.

The concern underwent several changes in ownership and finally came into the possession of Judge E. H. Johnson of St. Paul. He converted it into an oatmeal factory and it so continued until it was burned in 1891.

In the nineties the firm of Mason & Rust was operated at Forest Mills. Peter Engelhardt bought the Rust interests and the firm of Mason, Olson & Engelhardt was then formed with J. R. Mason, Peter Engelhardt and N. M. Olson, who had previously been an employee in the Mason & Rust plant at Forest Mills to the site of the old mill at Mazeppa. The dam, which had been out for several years, was rebuilt of stone and operations started. Later the stone dam went out and was replaced by a post dam. This proving inadequate, it was in turn replaced by the present dam. The plant was purchased by the village in 1915.

Prosper Robinson in 1878 built a warehouse for storing grain near the railroad track, south of the depot. This building was 60 by 30 feet on the ground. In 1883 it was raised and elevating machinery put in. Mr. Robinson and the mill company purchased all the grain brought in, making business very lively during the fall season. The elevator was later demolished and rebuilt.

A custom mill was built in 1883 at the south end of the village by Turner J. Preble and Alonzo Comstock. Ground was first broken for the dam in March, 1883, on outlet 1, of Hyde's addition to Mazeppa. The dam was seven and one-half feet high, and sufficient fall was secured in the flume to give a ten-foot head of water. The mill was operated for many years and finally burned.



Mazeppa village was incorporated by the legislature of 1877. The organic act appointed E. L. Ford and N. J. Majerus as judges of the first election and fixed March 17, 1877, as the date. On that day the voters assembled in Huntley's Hall, and cast 86 votes for the various village officers. Those elected were: President, O. D. Ford; trustees, Prosper Robinson, D. Van Fleet, and Welk B. Smith; treasurer, George Maxwell; recorder, Wesley Kinney; justice, J. S. Huntley; constable, Alvin Kinney. Since then the presidents and recorders have been as follows: Presidents—1878, O. D. Ford; 1879, 1880 and 1881, W. W. Day; 1882, N. C. Olson; 1883, R. F. Maxwell; 1884, Dr. O. S. Lont; 1885, W. P. Brown; 1886, J. W. Kingsley. The election day having been changed in 1886 from January to March, a second election was held in March at which Mr. Kingsley was re-elected. Subsequent presidents were: 1887, E. L. Ford; 1888, 1889, 1890 and 1891, W. H. Mack; 1892, 1893 and 1894, Peter Engelhardt; 1895 and 1896, J. B. Gregoire; 1897, Peter Engelhardt; 1898, J. W. Kingsley; 1899, W. H. Mack; 1900, Herman Phillips; 1901, J. J. Darcey; 1902, Peter Engelhardt; 1903, N. J. Almeter; 1904 and 1905, Theo. Maas; 1906, C. W. Collins; 1907 and 1908, Theo. Maas; 1909 and 1910, Matt Owens; 1911, 1912 and 1913, J. W. Kingsley; 1914, W. L. Duncan; 1915, 1916, W. B. Hagerty; 1917, W. B. Hagerty having been again elected, served until July 30, when he resigned, and M. J. Hart was appointed to fill out the vacancy; 1918 and 1919, M. J. Hart.

The recorders have been as follows: 1878, Wesley Kinney; 1879 and 1880, J. W. Kingsley; 1881 and 1882, D. Van Vleet; 1883, Mr. Van Vleet having been again elected, resigned April 12, and A. J. Myers filled out the term; 1884 and 1885, O. B. Munger; 1886, O. B. Munger was again elected in January, and was succeeded the same year by E. F. Hopkins, who was elected in March; 1887, H. N. Harding; 1888, D. L. Philley; 1889, Charles W. Underworth; 1890, J. H. Clear (appointed April 7); 1890, W. A. Munger (appointed July 7, 1890); 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895 and 1896, W. A. Munger; 1897, 1898, 1899 and 1900, J. S. Robertson; 1901, J. S. Robertson was again elected, but removed before the expiration of his term and Fred D. Mack was appointed to succeed him November 27, 1901. 1902 and 1903, Fred D. Mack; 1904 and 1905, O. G. Nichols; 1906, C. W. Collings; 1907 and 1908, Theo. Maas; 1909 and 1910, L. A. Phillips; 1911, 1912 and 1913, A. L. McCray; 1914, N. P. Seivert; 1915, N. P. Seivert, who was again elected, resigned, and F. J. Kingsley being appointed and declining to serve (August 2), W. A. Munger was appointed August 22, and by subsequent elections served in 1917, 1918 and 1919.

March 11, 1901, by a vote of 67 to 15, the voters of the village decided to entirely separate from the township.

The municipal improvements of Mazeppa consist of a waterworks system, a sewer system, an electric light system, a village hall, a village jail and a public park.

Shortly after the village was organized, a cistern was erected at the junction of Main and Water streets, and in 1886 a hand engine was purchased. A volunteer fire department was organized under the auspices of the village with a chief appointed by the council. The cistern was filled by carting water from the river, or sometimes by pumping it through a hose from the mill. This was the only fire protection the village had until the great fire of the winter of 1890-91. In the meantime water for domestic purposes was obtained from surface wells.

After the fire a waterworks system was established with a drilled well, a wooden tank on a 90-foot tower, the water being elevated by windmill power. It was the original intention to have an artesian well, but after drilling to good water, the artesian well idea was abandoned. Mains were established covering the principal streets.

After the mill was burned in the fire of the winter of 1891-92, the dam went out and the pond was dry for several years. In order to revive the use of the important waterpower here, the village in 1898 leased the property, dam site



and flowage rights to Mason, Olson & Engelhart, who moved a mill here from Forest Mills.

The windmill at the waterworks was then abandoned, and an arrangement made with the mill company for the use of a well at the mill and for the pumping of the water to the tank in the park, the conditions of the lease being amended to include this provision.

But in time the old tank began to show the results of age, leaking badly, and sometimes freezing in winter. Therefore in 1908 a new system was inaugurated, a cement tank erected on Cemetery Hill and the mains extended. The mill still continued to pump the supply. The tank holds 3,000 barrels, and has an elevation of 83 feet above the main village street, giving a pressure of 40 pounds. There are 3,300 feet of 6-inch mains, 700 feet of 4-inch mains, 13 double hydrants and two dead ends.

In the early days of the village, various experiments were made with kerosene and gasoline lamps for street lighting. The real beginning of the present system was on April 12, 1909, when the council decided to appoint a committee to investigate the cost and feasibility of providing adequate street lighting. After due deliberation the matter was submitted on June 15, 1909, to the voters who authorized the issuance of bonds for the purpose.

Fairbanks, Morse & Co. were engaged to do the work, and a system was established consisting of a 10 kwt. dynamo and equipment, with 36 street lights, the power to be furnished by water power, transmitted from the mill to the power house. The street lamps were lighted in the latter part of August. Oct. 16, 1909, it was decided to accept applications for service to business houses and residences, subject to the hours established for the street lighting system. The following year a larger dynamo was purchased. In 1913, the mill power was found insufficient and a gas engine was purchased and installed in the village hall.

November 2, 1915, a special election was held for the purpose of bonding the village to the amount of \$10,000 to purchase the property, lease and rights of the Mazeppa Roller Mill Co. The proposition was passed by a vote of 88 to 48, the majority being just three more votes than were required. The purchase was accordingly made for \$8,000. In 1916 a new power house was erected west of the mill. The pump and dynamo are west of the mill.

The nucleus of a sewer system has been started, the principal line extending from the High school, across the business center, to the river.

The village has a pretty well wooded park, neatly laid out and beautified with shrubbery and flowers. It has a bandstand and benches. The park was platted with the village and lies across the street from the school grounds. The village hall is the old village school, purchased, moved and remodeled in 1896.

As early as 1856, school was taught in the store of John E. Hyde by Mrs. Sidney Munson. Eliza Goodell, who later married Wallace Day, taught in a log cabin erected by Orville D. Ford on the present site of the residence of Charles Colling, and in a house erected by N. B. Smith. In 1858 a school was taught by Huldah McManus, who later became Mrs. G. W. Fowler. The building in which this school was kept was erected by the settlers in the Zumbro Valley, on the western side of the river, about a mile above the site of the Somers & Drinkwalter mill. The flood of 1859 swept this building away and it was never rebuilt. In the meantime J. A. Martin, in the fall of 1857, started getting out the lumber for a large two-story school building which was erected in the village in 1858, the expense of the structure being met by popular subscription. This building was enlarged and did good duty until 1896, when it was removed and converted into a village hall. In that year a large brick school building was erected, and a High School department inaugurated. In 1912 an addition to the school building was erected and new equipment added. The first graduate of the High School was L. A. Phillips in 1898. Since then there have been graduations every year except 1900, 1903, 1904, 1905 and 1911. The



school superintendents have been: 1896, W. G. Kingsford; 1898, R. A. Lyman; 1899, W. J. Mosher; 1902, H. H. Kent; 1904, W. C. Herrmann; 1908, J. S. Burrell; 1910, Augustus Hallstone; 1911, E. B. Anderson; 1916, H. B. Goff; 1918, F. S. Ladd; 1920, G. M. Rockwood.

Telephone service was inaugurated in Mazeppa by John W. Kingsley, who connected with the Pine Island-Oronoco-Potsdam-Plainview line at Oronoco, and maintained an exchange in his store. The Mazeppa Telephone Co. was organized in 1909 by John Grimm and F. C. Marvin and took over the Kingsley interests. The exchange was moved to a building on the west side of Main street. That same year Parkin & Meyer of the Goodhue Telephone Co. built a line to the village and established an exchange across the street from the local exchange. This line and exchange were purchased by the local company. In 1914 the present slightly structure was erected. The company now consists of H. L. Lathrop and John Grimm.

The Mazeppa Farmers' Elevator and Mercantile Co. was established in 1908. In 1912 it was reorganized as the Mazeppa Farmers' Elevator Co., and in 1916 sold to the Huntting Elevator Co. The Huntting people now lease the elevator to Carl Engelhart, while they themselves operate the old Maas elevator.

Creameries and cheese factories in this vicinity date back for several decades. In 1816, E. G. Hammer, of Zumbrota, bought out the creamery then owned by the Farmers' Elevator Co., and had been purchased by them from A. L. McCray. In 1920 Mr. Hammer sold to the present company the Mazeppa Farmers' Co-operative Dairy Association, which was organized early this year with Thomas Baker as president; Fred Busse, Jr., as secretary; and Paul Krinke, treasurer.

The Mazeppa Brass Band was for many years an important institution, and won many prizes at musical meets. It underwent several reorganizations, but throughout its existence the principal musicians were practically the same persons. The first organization was in November, 1880. George Westphal being the first leader and John W. Kingsbury the first business manager.

In the early days Mazeppa and vicinity were represented in correspondence appearing in various state and county papers. For some time in the middle seventies the Wabasha County Sentinel had a Mazeppa department with Mazeppa news and advertisements, and on February 28, 1877, issued a full two-page Mazeppa supplement. The editor of the department was E. F. Hopkins.

The Mazeppa Tribune was first issued November 3, 1877. There has been considerable confusion in the numbering of the issues in times past, but the date of the first issue is fairly well agreed upon. The paper was established by Schram and Clark. In a little over four months Matthias Schram became sole editor and proprietor. He was succeeded in 1886 by A. J. Myers. In 1891 Benn Houghtaling became editor and proprietor. He was followed in 1893 by the Tribune Printing Co., so called, composed of the brothers Herman H., David and Joseph Phillips. Joseph Phillips, the manager, withdrew in about two years, and the paper was continued by the other two. In 1898, W. G. Kingsford took the paper. He was succeeded in 1908 by L. A. Phillips, the present editor of the Mazeppa Journal, in which the Tribune is merged.

The Mazeppa Independent was started by F. J. Rucker and George Goetting. It was sold and taken to Zumbro Falls. November 3, 1904, it was brought back to Mazeppa by Michael Marx and established as the Mazeppa Journal. November 5, 1905, the paper was purchased by L. A. Phillips. In 1908 he purchased the Tribune and consolidated the two papers under the name of the Mazeppa Journal, retaining the volume and number of both papers. The first consolidated issue was published June 20, 1908.

Attention to religious duties has been an important factor in the lives of the people of Mazeppa. The first religious services were held in the store of John E. Hyde, in July, 1856, by Rev. Christopher McManus, a Methodist local preacher residing south of Pine Island, in Goodhue County. During the same



season, Rev. A. E. Standish preached in the mill. The first church edifice was that of the Congregationalists, built in 1870-71.

A Sunday School was organized in 1856 with Francis M. Skillman as superintendent. This was held in the store of John E. Hyde, where school was also held, and where early church services were conducted.

**SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Mazeppa, Minn.**—The early history of this church from its very infancy brings us back to the time when this section on the outskirts of Wabasha County was scarcely settled and the first Catholic settlers in this vicinity, who were poorly situated with earthly means and only few in number, had to be satisfied with the services rendered to them occasionally by those good, noble, spirited pioneer priests, Fathers Thissot, Trobec and Knauff, who under many hardships and admirable self-sacrifice visited the Catholic people that lived around here and attended to their spiritual wants and at different intervals saying Mass and administering the sacraments in the private house of the first champion Catholic settler, Mr. Peter Clemens. Although the flock was small, a little frame structure was erected in 1867 by Mr. Peter Clemens, who was body and soul of this organization from its inception. This humble building with all its simplicity was to be the edifice of worships of their holy faith. And although the beginning was very hard, yet the hearts of those Catholic pioneers, trusting for better days to come, were courageously filled with the ardent desire to see in time the joyous day, when they would be able, increased in number, to meet the difficult task of raising a fund to build a large edifice, upon which the glorious Cross, the significant symbol of our Faith, would in its full brightness, in the golden rays of the sun, be seen in the church tower. And indeed, their confidence and hope were not in vain, their courage, firm ambition and their sacrifices were plentifully rewarded. In the fall of 1871 a small knot of men were clustered together in this place, earnest, humble and God fearing men. They found that there was yet a certain want—a demand to be made on their slender purses, to build a church, thus adding to the honor of their undying faith. They were about to erect a memorial, to which the coming generation of the Mission could raise their eyes to admire the test of courage and confidence in the work of their forefathers. And the seed to be planted by a few should grow to a strong tree, whose fruitful branches would extend its blossoms around a far district.

Consulting the old records, sustained yet today by the congregation, the few families contributed the necessary money and gave generously to the best of their ability. In the fall of 1875, Father C. Walters, who made his abode at Belvidere till the next summer, visited Mazeppa occasionally and collected the first money for the building of the new church. And after the completion of the foundation in the year 1876, the work proceeded rapidly until the long desired day approached, when the new House of God was dedicated with the most significant ceremonies for divine services, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Ireland of St. Paul. Rev. Father Stariha, of Red Wing, had the pastoral charge of this Mission, who visited the place at intervals till the summer of 1878. At this time the Mission was attached to St. Mary's Church of Belvidere, Goodhue County. On October 10, 1878, SS. Peter and Paul's congregation was incorporated, the legal document bearing the signature of the late Archbishop Thomas L. Grace, D.D., of St. Paul. From 1878 to September, 1881, Father John Meier, resident pastor at Belvidere, attended to this place and was succeeded by Rev. John Tori. In the year 1880, under the administration of their pastor, Rev. John Meier, a fine church bell was purchased and the 14 stations of the Cross placed in church. After the removal of Fr. Tori, Rev. Pius Schmitt followed, succeeded by Rev. Ignatz Limberg; who ministered to the people here for about 12 years. Under the pastoral charge of Rev. Fr. Limberg a Sanctuary and Sacristy was built and a basement under the church made.

The Right Rev. Bishop Cotter, D.D., of Winona, yielding to the frequent appeals of the people for a resident pastor, most joyfully granted his approval.



and entrusted the organization of the parish to the present incumbent, Rev. Father Mueller, who as the first resident pastor, commenced his parochial duties November 1, 1901, on the feast of All Saints, on which day he held his first service. Looking over the field of his future labors, a great and difficult task was to be done, that demanded earnest activity and a sacrificing spirit on the part of the parishioners. A house was rented for the temporary residence of the pastor, and after having made proper arrangements, a lot on the north side of the church was purchased from Mrs. Anna Gregoire. In the spring of 1901 the excavating of the foundation was commenced and the erection of the fine and comfortable rectory, with all the modern improvements according to the plans of Architect Keith of Minneapolis, was completed on August 1, 1901. Mr. Jos. Reiland was the contractor of the parsonage. The next step was in the direction of renovating the exterior of the church, in shingling the roof and painting. Also the interior demanded attention, for most was to be done in the beautifying of God's holy temple. New altars were erected, statues and vestments purchased. In August, 1901, two new church bells, the gifts of some of the parishioners, were solemnly blessed by Rev. John Meier of Winona, assisted by several other priests. And as the increase of the parish members, especially of the rising generation, demanded more room capacity, the congregation decided in 1902 to enlarge the church, by building two side wings in the form of a cross to the main church structure, each having the dimensions of 18x27 ft. In the year 1903 the entire church was adorned with stained leaded glass windows. In 1904 a new commodious chapel completely equipped for daily winter services was built in size 18x35 ft., costing \$1,200. And in order to increase the surroundings of the church and rectory, six fine lots adjoining the church property were purchased in 1906 from Mr. Beck. Besides the many additions to the movable articles, such as a large new church organ, etc., a fine crucifixion group with stone platform was erected in the cemetery in 1909, as well as a new cement walk made from the rectory to the church and cement steps in front of the church. In the fall of 1910 a new coal furnace of the latest style, of 90,000 cubic feet capacity, was installed in the church and the walls of the church were most artistically frescoed. In the spring of 1911 a set of gothic relief stations were erected and a parish library established, a large barn built 20x36 ft. The cemetery consisting of more than five acres of land, has met with many improvements since 1901, the last being the erection of an iron fence and galvanized arch, 14 feet in height and 12 feet in width. Among the main improvements made in 1916 were the installation of electric lights in the church and chapel. In the spring of 1919 a commodious society hall was built, fully equipped with furnishings. Worthy of mention is the one week's holy mission that was held in the parish church in September, 1903, conducted by Rev. Father Gottfried Schlachter of the Precious Blood order.

The present church societies, which are in a flourishing condition, are: St. Mary's Ladies' Society, organized October 24, 1880, and reorganized in 1901—membership 95. St. Peter's Benevolent Society, organized November 27, 1892. The Catholic Order of Foresters, Court No. 630, organized November 22, 1896. St. Aloysius Sodality, organized January 1, 1906. St. Agnes Young Ladies' Society, organized June 21, 1912. Confraternity of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord, canonically erected December 31, 1901.

The following are the priests who in succession attended as pastors to the spiritual wants of the faithful belonging to the mission up to its erection as a parish with a resident pastor: Reverends Knauff, Stariha, Meier, Tori, Schmitt, Limberg, and the present incumbent as the first pastor, Rev. Francis X. Mueller. Since the incorporation of this church the gentlemen who acted in the official capacity as legal directors respectively as secretaries and treasurers are the following: Nicholas Marx, Peter Birkenforth, Peter Christnach, Chas. W. Colling, N. P. Seivert, Peter Nei, George Nei, and Peter J. Marx.

REV. FRANCIS X. MUELLER.



**Methodist Episcopal Church.**—The earliest church organization in the village was a class of this denomination, under the auspices of Presiding Elder N. Hobart, of Winona. Rev. J. W. Rogers had a circuit including this charge. A. E. Standish was the local elder, and F. S. Skillman class leader. There were eight members in the first class, as follows: Francis S. and Julia Skillman, James and Mary Ann Jackson, James Standish, Mary McLeach, Alvin Stoddard and Thurza Fraser. The church flourished for some years, but deaths and removals finally diminished its numbers, and services were discontinued. In 1911, when the Congregationalists were having difficulty in securing regular preaching in its pulpit, an appeal was made to the Methodist Conference. A local Methodist organization was perfected, and the Methodists have since occupied the Congregational church. The Methodist pastors since May 23, 1911, have been the Rev. Messrs. John W. Atkins, W. E. Hawley, Herbert E. Davis, A. B. Gould and then J. W. Atkins again.

The Congregational Church of Mazeppa was organized under the ministration of Rev. Henry Willard, May 17, 1860. The first members were: Ezra and Asenath Robinson, Anna Stowell, Charles H. and Rosina L. Goodell, Eliza J. Day, Nellie G. Ormsby, Eliza A. Hyde and Freeman Pearson. The first ordinance of baptism was administered to Freeman Pearson and Rosina L. Goodell; all the others being admitted on the recommendations furnished them by their respective churches from whence they came. Charles H. Goodell was elected deacon and treasurer, and Freeman Pearson clerk. The pastors have been: The Rev. Messrs. Warren Bigelow, J. M. Hayes, J. E. Burbank, E. P. Dada, J. B. Ladd, S. H. Barteau, Wm. M. Weld, H. K. Painter, N. H. Pierce, Daniel French, John Bradshaw, H. H. Ross, W. W. McArthur, J. C. Huntington, A. L. Struthers, W. H. Pierce, Q. C. Todd, J. E. Ingham, W. H. Moore, Irving B. Hollman, J. L. Nott, Frank Ferguson, S. T. Beattie, C. H. Moxie, Allen Clark and Paul Albert. O. B. Gould also occupied the pulpit at intervals. The church building was erected in 1870-71. It stands on the southeast corner of Walnut street and Broadway, fronting the latter, and overlooking the business part of the village. A parsonage was also erected. The Congregational organization is still retained, but its members worship with the Methodists who now occupy the church edifice.

**Free-Will Baptist Church.**—In March, 1880, Rev. J. N. Haskell organized a society of Free-Will Baptists here, this faith having been cherished by a few for many years. The following persons formed the original class: Charles and Jane Troxell, Wilson, Mrs. Mary and Miss Jane Hutchins, Elmer and Phoebe Stotts, James and Angeline Oliver, W. W. and Eliza Dean, and Misses Emma, Minnie and Lydia Dean, Rosa and Flora Oliver and Martha Harrison. Services were held in the schoolhouse, where the first quarterly meeting was held in 1881. During this year a church edifice was begun on the corner of Broadway and Chestnut streets, fronting the former, and was completed next season. Mr. Willard was succeeded by Rev. E. J. Keville, who remained a year. Not long afterward services were discontinued. The first superintendent of the Sunday school was Emma Dean.

Tyrian Lodge No. 86, A. F. & A. M. held its first communication under dispensation February 8, 1870. The first officers were: Worshipful Master, E. W. Robie; senior warden, James Oliver; junior warden, George Maxwell; treasurer, H. Wilson; secretary, W. M. Evans; senior deacon, O. D. Ford; junior deacon, George B. Franklin; senior steward, W. W. Day; tyler, G. W. Judd. The first application for membership was that of Evander Skillman. The charter was granted January 11, 1871. The first officers elected under the charter were: Worshipful Master, E. W. Robie; senior warden, James Oliver; junior warden, W. W. Black; treasurer, A. J. Taft; secretary, W. M. Evans; senior deacon, Evander Skillman; junior deacon, G. B. Franklin; tyler, G. W. Judd.

The Masters of the lodge have been: E. W. Robie, James Oliver, W. W. Black, J. S. Huntley, E. S. Hyde, George Maxwell, E. L. Ford, Geo. W. Hall,



John B. Gregoire, E. L. Ford, L. L. Mathews, John McCabe, N. L. Munger, A. L. McCray, A. P. Hawkinson, M. J. Rucker, L. A. Phillips and A. W. Crawford.

The first meetings were held in the hall in the store at the southeast corner of Main and Walnut streets. Afterward the lodge put an extra story on the building owned by Dr. O. S. Lont and occupied as a drug store by William Angell. In time John W. Kingsley purchased the property and it is now owned by the lodge, the lodge room being in the upper story and the banquet hall in the lower story.

Mazeppa Chapter Order of Eastern Star, No. 188, began work under a dispensation granted March 17, 1906, the officers being: Worthy matron, Mrs. Lottie McCabe (Mrs. J. B. McCabe); worthy patron, E. L. Ford; associate matron, Ellen Munger (Mrs. N. L. Munger); secretary, Mrs. Agnes Kingsley (Mrs. J. W. Kingsley). The chapter was granted its charter May 10, 1906, and the officers elected were: Worthy matron, Harriet Nichols (Mrs. O. G. Nichols); worthy patron, E. L. Ford; associate matron, Ellen Munger (Mrs. N. L. Munger); secretary, Agnes Kingsley (Mrs. J. W. Kingsley). The office of matron has been held successively up to the present time by Mrs. Harriet Nichols, Mrs. Agnes Kingsley, Mrs. Nellie McClelland, Mrs. Maude Yotter (Mrs. F. C. Yotter), Mrs. Mary Kingsley (Mrs. F. W. Kingsley), and Mrs. Phoebe Mack (Mrs. L. L. Mack).

Mazeppa Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen, was instituted January 8, 1878, but the charter was soon surrendered.

Mazeppa Lodge, No. 225, Degree of Honor, was organized January 8, 1906. The first officers were: Past Chief of Honor, Clara (Mrs. John E.) Philley; chief of honor, Hattie (Mrs. Fred D.) Mack; lady of honor, Melissa (Mrs. Lansford) Ingalls; chief of ceremonies, Mary (Mrs. W. A.) Munger; recorder, Anna L. (Mrs. E. L.) Ford; financier, Hattie (Mrs. O. G.) Nichols; receiver, Caroline (Mrs. M. J.) Rucker; usher, Emma Beardsley; inside watch, Kate (Mrs. Thomas) Hodson; outside watch, Margaret (Mrs. N. J.) Almeter.

Mazeppa Lodge No. 71, I. O. O. F., was instituted Aug. 6, 1879, with the following charter officers: S. Phillips, N. G.; F. L. Boney, V. G.; M. Schram, secretary; G. W. Judd, treasurer; E. W. Black and James Hickox. At the second meeting other officers were installed as follows: C. C. Emery, Warden; R. A. Johnson, C.; E. W. Black, I.G.; W. King, R.S.N.G.; Alvin Kinney, L.S.N.G.; R. Black, R.S.V.G.; J. B. Gregoire, L.S.V.G.; William Ritschlag, R.S.S.; Daniel Macky, L.S.S.

Deville C. Ford, W.R.C., No. 96, Mazeppa, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, was organized January 25, 1896, with the following charter members: Orille A. (Mrs. Orvill D.) Ford, Adelia A. (Mrs. Orton) Ford, Elizabeth (Mrs. Charles C.) Robinson, Maria D. (Mrs. Robert H.) Davis, Mary J. (Mrs. Henry) Pengilly, Arne E. (Mrs. Lewis) Judd, Eliza (Mrs. Thomas) Carlon, Helena A. (Mrs. Peter A.) Clemens, Emily (Mrs. Z. B.) Page, Julia R. (Mrs. Charles) Turner, Mary (Mrs. Levi E.) Scruby, Mary Pengilly, Susanna (Mrs. George W.) Sullivan, Grace Pengilly, Georgia (Mrs. William L.) Duncan. The officers for that year were: Mary Scruby, president; Elizabeth Robinson, senior vice-president, Mary J. Pengilly, junior vice-president; Adelia A. Ford, secretary; Emily Page, treasurer; Julia R. Turner, chaplain; Mary Pengilly, conductor; Eliza Carlon, guard; Susanna Sullivan, assistant conductor; Helena Clemens, assistant guard. The work of the Woman's Relief Corps consists mainly in assisting the Grand Army of the Republic in their noble work of caring for their afflicted comrades and their dependent ones; in cherishing and emulating the deeds of our army nurses and of all loyal women who rendered loving service to our country in its hour of peril; and in teaching patriotism in the communities in which we live, and perpetuating the memory of our heroic dead by the sacred observance of Memorial Day. With the last mentioned service in view, a part of the Corps' work consists in making a wreath of



flowers for each of the graves of departed comrades, the Corps marching to the cemetery with the G. A. R. on May 30 each year to deposit the decorations. The Corps is growing in strength every year, and has now a patriotic instructor whose duty is to promote patriotic education in the schools by presenting flags, patriotic primers, oleographs of the origin and history of the Stars and Stripes, and to observe national anniversaries and flag days. The report of the patriotic instructor for 1919 (Josephine Elston) shows that she visited six schools, presented one flag to a Sunday school and one flag to a public institution, gave 36 flag salute leaflets and eight primers to schools, the amount expended being \$16.16. Through the kindness of Comrade Gilbert Beardsley of D. C. Ford Post No. 50, of Mazeppa, a list of the soldiers who have answered the last roll call has been obtained and is here presented, namely: James Harrison, Ira Belden, Thomas Perry, R. A. Johnson, Lester Frederickson (World War), Nile Graham, M. Owen, A. Marshal, W. W. Black, Elmer Black, A. J. Taft, John Smithson, N. B. Smith, C. N. Elston, Andrew Arnold, T. Holloway, Joe Sibly, John O'Connell (U. S. Navy), Ben Crandall, John Hyde, Orton Ford, Ansil Carrier, Henry Washburn, Turner Preble, Charles Robinson, Charles Sibley, George Hall, G. Goodman, George Carlon (Spanish War), Thomas Carlon, Henry Putman, Henry Pengilly, Peter Clemens, Orin Boughton, Chauncey Allen, M. Schram, Henry Squire, H. Helenbolt, Mr. Hartman, George Franklin, Sylvester Summers, H. Paxley, George Suits, Wallace Hutchins, F. Crandall and L. McManus. The Post also decorates eight graves at Bell Chester, seven at Lincoln and three at Bear Valley.

Mazeppa Lodge, I. O. G. T., had a flourishing organization for several years. It was instituted on January 31, 1883, under the auspices of Col. J. T. Long, state organizer. There were forty charter members, with officers as follows: W. W. Day, P.W.C.T.; S. H. Wyatt, W.C.T.; Clara Preston, W.V.T.; W. H. Day, W.R.S.; Murray Philley, W.F.S.; D. L. Philley, W.T.; J. B. McManus, W.C.; Hazen Runnells, W.M.; Mary Marshall, W.I.G.; L. S. Judd, W.S.; Lodge Deputy, Lucy J. Bigelow.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union at Mazeppa was first organized on April 15, 1878. The last meeting under this organization was held in April, 1879. On September 24, 1881, a new start was made with the original number.

The People's State Bank of Mazeppa was incorporated May 25, 1909, and received its charter August 5, 1909. The first officers and directors were: G. H. Squire (president), Nick. Arendt (vice-president), Arthur J. Hodge, (cashier), Matthias J. Hart, R. F. Budersiek, J. J. Darcy, A. R. Hawkenson, F. W. Kingsley, all of Mazeppa, and William Manthei, of Zumbrota. The bank opened for business in its present sightly building, September 13, 1909. The original stock was \$10,000, increased January 10, 1911, to \$20,000 and November 13, 1919, to \$25,000. December 31, 1910, the deposits were \$51,552.81, the loans and documents \$47,601.91; December 31, 1915, the deposits were \$175,363.13, the loans and discounts, \$150,307.57. December 31, 1919, the capital and surplus and undivided profits were \$36,932.12; the loans and discounts, \$365,716.35; the deposits, \$411,832.49. Mr. Squire is still the president and Mr. Hodge the cashier. Mr. Arendt died as vice-president and was succeeded in January, 1915, by Fred Grossbach. When the bank was opened Frank A. Hodge was assistant cashier. He was succeeded by Art. S. Hodge, the present assistant. The bank has been especially active in agricultural endeavor and has made a specialty of cattle loans. The present directors are G. H. Squire, Fred Grossbach, M. J. Hart, F. W. Draheim, A. R. Hawkinson, A. J. Hodge, J. J. Darcy, Otto Goetsch and Bertha Arendt. Bookkeepers have been employed from time to time, the present one being Antonio Hoffman.

The Bank of Mazeppa had its beginning in the fall of 1886, when H. T. Fowler, formerly of the Batavian Bank of St. Paul, started a private bank here. Business was started October 10, 1886. The bank was incorporated January 2, 1888, with a capital of \$10,000. The original stockholders were: Prosper



Robinson, Theo. Maas, J. W. Kingsley, E. L. Ford, William Robinson, C. F. A. Maas, H. T. Fowler, J. B. Gregoire, W. D. Angell, Anthony Casper, D. L. Philley, O. D. Ford, W. H. Mack, Walter Fowler, Peter Engelhart, Philip Arendt, Francis Reding, Elmer E. Fowler. The Messrs. Maas were living in Pine Island, Messrs. Arendt and Casper in Bell Chester, Mr. Reding in Bell Chester and Walter Fowler in St. Paul. The first officers were: O. D. Ford, president; H. T. Fowler, cashier. The directors were H. T. Fowler, E. L. Ford, D. L. Philley, Philip Arendt, Prosper Robinson, J. W. Kingsley, O. D. Ford, C. F. A. Maas and W. H. Mack. April 7, 1890, E. E. Fowler was elected cashier, H. T. Fowler having resigned. E. E. Fowler died in the fall of 1894, and on September 19 of that year L. L. Mathews was elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. Mathews resigned December 31, 1904, and the present cashier, A. F. Liffbrig, was elected to fill the vacancy January 10, 1905. Theodore Maas, the president, succeeded O. D. Ford, January 14, 1902. The present officers are: Theo. Maas, president; C. F. A. Maas, vice-president; A. J. Liffbrig, cashier; Georgia Erwin, bookkeeper. The directors are: Theo. Maas, C. F. A. Maas, J. W. Kingsley, Peter Engelhart, W. G. Kingsford, Sarah Kingsford and A. F. Liffbrig. The institution was chartered as a state bank December 24, 1891, and started business as such, January 2, 1892, the stockholders being John Miller, Lewis Klingsporn, Francis Redding, E. E. Fowler, J. B. Gregoire, J. W. Kingsley, C. F. A. Maas, Anthony Casper, Orville D. Ford, E. L. Ford, W. H. Mack, William F. F. Maas, August Klingsporn, William Robinson, Addie M. Gilman. The directors were O. D. Ford, J. B. Gregoire, E. L. Ford, W. H. Mack, C. F. A. Maas, J. W. Kingsley and E. E. Fowler. At this time the capital was increased to \$25,000. The bank has been in the same building since it first opened its doors. It has been an important factor in the life of the community for over three decades and has had its share in its progress and growth. The deposits on January 2, 1892, were \$50,414.93, the loans and discounts \$51,361.29. The deposits on December 31, 1900, were \$81,509.47; the loans and discounts \$76,519.23. The deposits on December 31, 1910, were \$233,470.00; the loans and discounts \$180,416.71. On December 31, 1919, the capital was \$25,000, the surplus and undivided profits \$14,202.54, the deposits \$395,917.73.

### MAZEPPA TOWNSHIP.

Mazeppa Township occupies a part of Township 109, Range 14, that part east of the south fork of the Zumbro River having been set off to Zumbro. It is bounded on the north by Chester, on the east by Zumbro, on the south by Olmsted County and on the west by Goodhue County. The northern part is cut by the Zumbro River, and its northern branch, Trout Creek.

Much of the township was originally covered with a dense forest growth. Except along the water courses the timber is now for the most part cleared off, although nearly every farmer has a small grove, and many have timber lots.

This region abounds in natural curiosities. Near the junction of Trout brook with the Zumbro river is a cave in the side of the bluff. This is probably fifteen feet high and nearly as wide, extending thirty or forty feet into the ground; a small passage at some distance above the floor of the cave runs back as much farther. The side, roof and walls of the cave are solid limestone rock and are covered with Indian hieroglyphics representing the leading birds, fish, and game animals of the region. There are numerous other characters whose significance is known only to a few. It is said by some of the early settlers that the Indians who remained here after settlement were made refused to enter the cave, saying "the devil lives there." It served as a shelter for some of the early prospectors after claims, and their horses and some of the first settlers lived here for a while.

In the fall of 1883 a well was dug in the rear of W. W. Day's livery barn on Walnut street, Mazeppa, and well preserved pieces of wood were taken from it at a depth of over forty feet. They appeared to be some kind of willow,



and the circumstances clearly show that an immense deposit of soil has been made since they grew. Roots and pieces of timber were encountered at various depths. Several similar discoveries have been made in digging wells in the vicinity.

The first settler in Mazeppa Township was Ira O. Seeley. He visited this locality in the fall of 1854, and being pleased with the valley where Mazeppa village now stands, decided to squat upon a claim there, and to that end erected a bark shanty on the west side of the river, not far from the present site of the milldam. Returning to Wabasha for his family, he became convinced, on reflection, that the valley of Trout Brook afforded greater advantages for general farming purposes; so when he came on with his family next spring he located on section 5. Immediately after Mr. Seeley came Enoch Young, Joseph Fuller and G. C. Sleeper, all making claims on sections 4 and 5. In April of the same year came Joseph Ford and his son, Orville D., and George Maxwell. During the same season Anson L. Carrier, Nelson B. Smith, Turner Preble, Francis A. Stowell, John E. Hyde, Elijah Lont, J. B. Miller, James H. Sandford, Lewis Blunt, George Duncan, Charles Fox, Isaac Nicholls, George Bailey, and possibly others visited the township.

When the first settlers came to Mazeppa, the Indians were plentiful. They cultivated some land on the Zumbro River to raise corn. They often camped in the east end of what is now Mazeppa village. They were friendly to the whites, and often engaged in tests of marksmanship with the men.

An incident in the experience of Dr. O. S. Lont will illustrate the severity of the winter of 1856-57. One day he set out with a team to visit a patient seven miles away across the prairie. A furious snowstorm came on and he succeeded in going only four miles and was housed up four days. At the end of this time, with assistance, he was able to make his way through the drifts back to Mazeppa. In the meantime he had not seen the patient, and the feelings of his wife, who was at home alone and knew nothing of his whereabouts, cannot be easily imagined.

G. W. Fowler was among the earliest settlers. On one occasion he killed a fine deer and proceeded to carry the carcass home. On the way he was pursued by wolves, and was compelled to abandon the venison to them in order to save himself. The first coffin made in the town was put together for an Indian by Mr. Fowler.

Mazeppa Township is crossed by the main road between Lake City and Rochester. During the summer of 1855 Messrs. Ford and Maxwell staked out a road to Red Wing. The stakes were made of saplings and peeled, so that one could be seen in daytime from the location of its nearest neighbor. Thus it was comparatively easy to find the way across the prairie. In the succeeding fall, I. T. Nicholls set about the erection of a mill, and to this end employed Mr. Maxwell to go to Red Wing after lumber. Maxwell reached Red Wing one afternoon in time to get a load on his wagon ready for a start in the morning. During the night a heavy rain fell, and next morning both load and roads were heavy. With two yokes of oxen he set out on the return to Mazeppa. At dark he had covered two-thirds of the distance, and found his wagon stuck fast in a slough. In making an extra effort to move the load the tongue of the wagon was broken, and no tools or material for repairs were at hand. In this dilemma Maxwell set out to reach home with the oxen, leaving the wagon and load. But now a new difficulty arose. The stakes that guided his course were not visible in the darkness, and he was several times at a loss as to directions, and nearly the whole night was consumed in reaching home. Next day he returned with means for repairs and succeeded in reaching Mazeppa with the load. Not a house was to be seen on the way, and the traveler was obliged in those days to depend wholly on his own resources.

The Gold Fever days in this vicinity are still remembered in this vicinity. The base of operations was at Oronoco, in Olmsted county, where a mining



company was formed. In 1856 gold was discovered on the river bank by Holden Whipple, who lived near the junction of the north branch with the main stream. Search showed the existence of minute particles of the precious metal all along the stream, and a considerable quantity was found to exist in the village of Oronoco. In the fall of 1858 a company was organized for the purpose of systematic mining, and sluices were erected on section 22. Here was found a large deposit of clay in the narrow river valley, which yielded a good percentage of "shot gold." By the time the works were ready for operation winter closed in, and a long period of impatient waiting was imposed on the sanguine miners. But their patience was destined to be still more highly taxed, for the melting of the snow in the spring following raised the river very high, and their handiwork was swept away by the remorseless Zumbro. Their courage was, however, unshaken, and the company was reorganized with additions to its membership and capital. More extensive improvements were at once planned and begun, and by the end of June were ready for business. Everything was completed on a certain Friday night, and most of the proprietors retired to Oronoco to rest and prepare for pushing the work on the following Monday. A few of the most enthusiastic or industrious remained over Saturday to set the work going. That night the sluices were cleaned up, and something over twenty dollars' worth of gold was taken out.

But on Monday morning the memorable flood of July 3, 1859, had arrived, and the works of the "Oronoco Mining Company" were swept entirely away. The courage and resources of most of the miners having now been exhausted, the work was abandoned.

The great flood of 1859, above referred to, caused great suffering and hardship all along the stream. Considerable manufacturing machinery was swept down from Oronoco. The approach of the rise was so sudden and rapid that many settlers along the river bottoms were unable to save anything. G. W. Fowler left home in the morning and returned shortly after noon. His house, which stood on a knoll, was entirely surrounded. The boat, moored by a chain on the river bank, was still there, but in a vertical position, the stem being just visible above the seething waters. After diving in vain two or three times to unfasten it, he succeeded in breaking the chain and removed his family to a place of safety. Numerous other settlers fared in a similar manner.

Like the other towns in the county, Mazeppa, which then took in the whole Congressional Township, was organized May 11, 1858, on which date the first town meeting was held. John A. Marten was made temporary chairman, after which George Maxwell was elected moderator, and H. M. Stanton and Charles F. Fox were chosen clerks. The town was already well settled, and 103 votes were polled. For chairman, C. F. Fox had 57 votes; F. A. Stowell, 46. For side supervisors, James H. Sandford received 102 votes; R. W. Drinkwater, 50; C. F. Fox, 40; scattering, 4. For town clerk, Ansel F. Fox, 57; H. M. Stanton, 45. For assessor, George W. Fowler, 98. For collector, Ansel F. Carrier, 102. Overseer of the poor, William A. Preble, 57; Otis K. Gould, 43. Constables, A. F. Carrier, 102; W. A. Preble, 59; Orville Ford, 9. Justices of the peace, Corydon Avery, 60; John Reimund, 69; James Bent, James L. Bent, Ladd Robi and George Maxwell, received each a number of votes. At a meeting of the supervisors on July 10, following, the town was divided into three road districts, the main and north branches of the Zumbro river making the dividing lines.

On April 22, 1876, a special election was held to vote on the question of issuing bonds to the amount of \$12,000 for the Minnesota Midland Railroad. Out of 136 votes, 78 were in favor of the proposition, and in due time the bonds were issued. The township has a town hall in section 17.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### HAMMOND VILLAGE, HYDE PARK AND ZUMBRO.

Hammond is a thriving village located near the most southerly bend of the Zumbro River. It extends both sides of the river. On the west side is the Hammond State Bank, the Hammond Creamery Association, the Hammond Telephone Association exchange, the Hammond Building Block Co., the post-office, the hotel, and a number of business houses. East of the river are the railroad station, the lumber yard, elevator, stock shipping facilities and the like along the tracks, and here the Farmers State Bank is also located. The Catholic, Evangelical, Lutheran and Methodist churches are represented in Hammond.

Situated on an easy ford across the Zumbro, on a road leading from lower down the valley and forking here to the rich lands eastward, the present site of Hammond easily became a well known point. This ford was located south of the present bridge, and north of the mouth of what was then an excellent trout stream flowing some three miles from the west, but which is now a dry run. In the first year or so of settlement the crossing was known as Lyme's Ford, from a settler named Lyman, who owned woodland on the heights north of the ford and for a time occupied a cabin there. In 1856 Joseph Hammons settled in the valley about 100 rods south of what is now the Hammond State Bank. In 1857 Simeon Garlitz settled on the rise of land east of the present road and south of the creek. July 3, 1857, he entered the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 28, township 109, range 13. This land was mortgaged, passed through a sheriff's sale and finally came into possession of Mr. Hammons. In time Mr. Hammons built a house on what is now Main street, about five blocks west of Bridge street. To this house he moved his family and put in a small stock of goods, possibly to the value of about \$300. This store was continued until a short time before the railroad was built.

Grading on the railroad was started in 1877, and completed and the rails laid and traffic opened in 1878. About the time the grading was being done, three shacks were erected on the present site of the village west of the river.

Bernard Kramer built on the northeast corner of Spring and Bridge streets. Herman Berg built on lot 2, block 2. Fred Dosdall built on lot 5, block 2. He engaged for a time in sawing timber.

In 1878 the first warehouse was erected by Anton Kruger, who had been farming on section 33, some two miles away. His financial partner in the warehouse enterprise was Michael Dosdall, who was farming some four miles south, over the line in Olmsted County. This warehouse handled the great quantities of grain which farmers had held over from the bumper crop of 1877. Edward Noonan was grain buyer and station agent. It was probably that same year (1878) that Otto Sass erected a blacksmith shop on lot 4, block 3, north of the creek, bringing from Lake City the lumber which he obtained from a machine shed he had bought and torn down. It was in the year 1878 that a wooden bridge was built on the site of the present steel bridge.

In 1879 Anton Kruger, the owner of the warehouse, determined that the village should be located about the warehouse east of the bridge. With this in view he built a residence on the north side of the street not far from the warehouse, with the purpose of establishing a hotel. That same year Wilhelm Bartz erected and opened a hotel on lot 5, block 1, on the west side of Bridge street. These and the blacksmith shop built the previous year consti-



tute the beginning of business on Bridge street. About this time August Kuehn erected a house on lot 7, block 3, in the same vicinity. In October, 1879, Nicholas Brucher came here as representative for Calvin Potter, a Kellogg storekeeper, and opened a store in the Anton Kruger residence. Mr. Brucher found here the nucleus of the two business centers which exist.

West of the bridge was the warehouse, in which was also the railroad office. There was also a small railroad waiting-room nearby. There was also the Kruger building, in which he opened his store. The large elevator had been started. The bridge had been built west of the creek, and southwest of the river was the blacksmith shop of Otto Sass. On Bridge street, west of the river, was the hotel of Wilhelm Bartz, and on Spring street was the home of August Kuehn. Farther west was the residence of Joseph Hammons. In the winter of 1879-80 the large elevator, 40 by 80, was built on the site of the present elevator. The railroad office was established in the elevator. In the spring of 1880, Nicholas Brucher erected a store on the site of his present place of business, near where he had operated the Potter store, and started in the meantime business for himself. That year a lumber yard was opened not far from the elevator and warehouse by a Wabasha concern.

The Potter hotel was opened on the height near the Brucher store. In the old warehouse a store was operated for a short time in 1880 as a branch of the Williamson concern at Lake City. Mr. Hammons erected in 1880 a store building on the west side of Bridge street, lot 2, block 4, and rented it to Benjamin Young, who opened a store in it. A hardware store was opened north of the river by William Davis, who soon formed a partnership with Roderick Smith. The building was a vacant store, which had come into the possession of Fred Kahn, a farmer, and was moved to the new village of Hammond. Early in 1881 Fred Dosdall started the building of a hotel on the present site of the Hammond House, at the west end of the bridge, and south of the street. Edward N. York opened business, June 2, 1881, in the Hammond building on Bridge street, which had then been closed about three weeks. It is interesting to note that the two pioneer merchants are still in business here. Nicholas Brucher has his store on the site of the one he opened in 1880. Mr. York continued in business alone for eleven years, and then had William Kruger for a partner for two years. Mr. Kruger sold his interest to Adam Funk, and the E. N. York Mercantile Co. was organized with E. N. York, Adam Funk and A. R. Haggerty, and the present building erected. Messrs. York and Funk are in active management, Mr. Haggerty living in Rochester.

The flood of April 10 and 11, 1888, is an event of much interest to the older residents. The melting snows of the preceding "blizzard winter" swelled the Zumbro and spread out into a great pond. The part of the village west of the river was completely covered. The York store was flooded until the water was over four feet above the main floor, and the goods in the basement and on the main floor were saved only by the most strenuous work. Fortunately the water in this part of the town was still. In the eastern part of the town there was a swift running current which cut through the elevator but did not carry it away. The old wooden bridge was washed away and later replaced by a concrete and steel structure. Pigs and chickens were killed and small buildings washed away, but considering the extent of the flood the damage was not as great as might have been expected.

The village of Hammons, named after the original proprietor, but later changed to Hammond, was surveyed on the west side of the river, October 31, November 1 and 2, 1877, by H. N. McDougall for Mr. Hammons. The principal street running north and south was Bridge street. Parallel to it on the west were First and Second streets. The east and west thoroughfares are Main and Spring streets. There was some uncertainty as to where the bridge was to cross. The present road to the bridge from Bridge street has no name, having been established after the village was platted.



Hammond was incorporated in 1900. The first officers were: President, Nicholas Brucher; trustees, Nicholas Schouweiler, J. W. Arnold and Albert Fuerstnan; recorder, L. N. Ingalls; treasurer, M. J. Maldoon; justice of the peace, A. J. Button; constable (and street commissioner), Herman Heinbockel. Mr. Brucher served as president also in 1901, since which time his successors have been as follows: 1902, Nicholas Schouweiler; 1903 and 1904, Henry Kitzman; 1905, Adam Funk; 1906 and 1907, Albert Fuerstnan; 1908 and 1909, Math. Rosch; 1910 and 1911, A. D. Anderson; 1912, Herman Beyer; 1913, Math. Rosch; 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918, Nicholas Ilgen; 1919, A. D. Anderson; 1920 . . . . L. N. Ingalls served three years as recorder, in 1900, 1901 and 1902. His successors have been as follows: In 1903 and 1904, Nichloas Brucher; in 1905, S. J. French. In 1907 B. D. Mitchell was elected, but at once resigned, and Henry Kitzman was appointed April 2, 1907. Nicholas Schouweiler served in 1908, 1909, 1910 and 1911, and M. M. Anderson in 1912 and 1913. The latter was followed by Ben E. Fick, who resigned December 2, 1914, and Albert Hoenk, who was appointed, served in 1915, 1916 and 1917. Mr. Hoenk was succeeded in 1918 by G. L. Barberrie.

The village has a complete waterworks system and mains covering the principal streets. The system was inaugurated in 1913, with Nathaniel Rosch as president, M. M. Anderson as recorder, and a council consisting of Rudolph Schacht, Jr., Nicholas Ilgen and Emil Dickman. The first action was taken by the board May 23, 1913. A special election was held June 4, 1913, at which the electors by a vote of 41 to 6 decided favorably on the proposition of issuing bonds to the amount of \$4,000. A 200-foot well was drilled, an 85,000 gallon tank was installed, and a windmill on a 40-foot galvanized iron tower erected on one of the heights overlooking the village. An engine was also installed as an auxiliary to the windmill. Mains were laid along the principal streets. Certain specifications regarding the river crossing were not complied with, and it was some time before the village fathers finally accepted the system. For some years, however, the river crossing continued to be a source of trouble and leakage. The village property outside of the waterworks system consists of a hose house and fire apparatus, and a combined lock-up and council room.

The fire department had its beginning January 3, 1905, when the council approved as fire chief, John Dolan, who, with the chief engineer and ten others, were to constitute the fire department. After the waterworks were put in, the fire engine was exchanged for 500 feet of hose. The village has been fortunate in never having had a serious fire.

Three different times tests have been made of individual street lamps, but none have yet proven satisfactory. Negotiations are now under way for the use of a private plant for public lighting.

"Schouweiler's Park," a private park beautifully located on the banks of the Zumbro, is much used as a public picnic ground. There is now in the course of development a combined school and village park which promises much for the future.

The Hammond postoffice was established about 1879 in the Wilhelm Bartz Hotel, with Mr. Bartz as postmaster. In 1880 it was moved to the Hammond store and Benjamin Young made postmaster. After Mr. Young's departure, his bondsmen, Joseph Hammons and Samuel Corp, conducted the office a few months. June 3, 1881, E. N. Corp was appointed. He kept the office in the same place, and when he moved his store, moved the office with it. He was succeeded July 20, 1907, by M. M. Anderson, who moved it to its present location in the Hammond State Bank building.

The first creamery was started in 1887 by Anton Kruger and E. N. York. After operating it four years, they rented it out for an equal length of time, and then sold it to the present Farmers' Creamery Association.

The Hammond Building Block Co. was organized July 27, 1904. The company consists of Adam A. Funk, Herman Heinbockel, L. N. Ingalls and Rudolph



Schacht, Sr. The concern is engaged in making building and ornamental blocks, and enjoys quite a trade in this and surrounding towns.

The Hammond State Bank was incorporated June 22, 1898, the original stockholders being W. W. Churchill, Nicholas Brucher, E. N. York, Estella A. York, Sidney Corp, J. W. Arnold, M. J. Maldoon, G. W. Price, C. L. Anderson, Nicholas Schouweiler, John McLaughlan, Herman Miller, John F. Cook, Lorinda M. York, all of Hammond, Rufus R. Zander, C. A. Hoffman and M. Wanke, of Jarrett; William Koenig, of Rochester; F. J. McLaughlin, of Donnelly; C. L. Chamberlain, of Wabasha, and Jacob H. Seim, of South Troy. The first board of directors was composed of the above mentioned stockholders with the exception of John F. Cook, F. G. Colburn and Jacob H. Seim. At the first regular meeting of the board, held August 3, 1898, the officers elected were: M. J. Maldoon (president), John McLaughlin (vice-president), W. W. Churchill, of the First National Bank of Rochester (cashier), E. N. York, Nicholas Schouweiler, Sidney Corp, J. W. Arnold, Herman Miller, Rufus R. Zander and C. A. Hoffman. The original capital stock was \$10,000, and the bank opened for business in the west half of a building erected for that purpose by Mr. Maldoon. It has enjoyed a highly prosperous career with a steadily increasing volume of business, as shown by the following figures: In 1900 its deposits were \$30,253.01; loans and discounts, \$32,776.63; 1905, deposits, \$51,850.02; loans and discounts, \$56,745.91; 1910, deposits, \$103,319.92; loans and discounts, \$93,423.51; 1915, deposits, \$142,876.07; loans and discounts, \$155,796.42; 1919 (report of December 31), capital stock, \$25,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$8,217.93; deposits, \$250,435.03; loans and discounts, \$227,922.88. The following list shows the successive changes in the official staff: Presidents—1898, M. J. Maldoon; 1901, E. N. York; 1902, Nicholas Schouweiler; 1903, Nicholas Brucher (declined to serve), M. J. Maldoon; 1904, E. N. York; 1907, M. J. Maldoon; 1909, Nicholas Schouweiler; 1913, William Koenig; 1914, Nicholas Schouweiler.

Vice-presidents—1898, John M. Loughlin; 1900, E. N. York; 1901, Nicholas Brucher, 1903, Henry Kitzman; 1905, M. J. Maldoon; 1906, Nicholas Schouweiler; 1908, William Koenig; 1909, John Robinson; 1910, William Koenig; 1913, W. W. Crawford; 1919, William Koenig.

Cashiers—1898, W. W. Churchill; 1902, Glen W. Mosher; 1903, Nicholas Schouweiler; 1904, Bert D. Mitchell; 1909, E. N. York; 1919, W. E. York.

Assistant cashiers—March 17, 1899, H. A. Haynes; January 1, 1900, Glen W. Mosher; January 12, 1903, Bert D. Mitchell; January 12, 1904, to January 12, 1909, none; January 12, 1909, Walter E. York; January 12, 1912, Walter E. York and B. E. Fick; January 12, 1915, Walter E. York and Charles Timm; January 12, 1919, Otis Preston; September 1, 1919 (clerk), M. M. Anderson.

The officers chosen January 13, 1920, were: Nicholas Schouweiler (president), William Koenig (vice-president), W. E. York (cashier), M. M. Anderson (assistant cashier), John Robinson, E. N. York, W. M. Crawford, Thomas W. Cooke, Nicholas Schouweiler, William Koenig, L. A. Welke, John E. Webster and O. H. Olson.

The Farmers' State Bank of Hammond was organized September 1, 1915, through the efforts of A. J. Hodge, of the Mazeppa Peoples State Bank, a former resident of this vicinity, and opened its doors for business September 10, 1915. Its officers were: John F. Cooke (president), A. J. Hodge (vice-president), F. A. Hodge (cashier), A. F. Polson, Nick Ilgen, Edw. Reinke, A. W. Haggerty, W. P. Pencille, Lynn R. Anderson, and A. D. Anderson. The bank started business with a capital of \$10,000 and a surplus of \$2,000. Its first quarters were in the Elgin Hardware Store, but the erection of a new building was at once begun, and was subsequently completed, being occupied January 1, 1916. The deposits December 3, 1915, were \$27,786.38; loans and discounts, \$26,882.00. On December 31, 1916, the deposits were \$86,153.43; loans and discounts, \$83,278.32. On December 31, 1917, the deposits were \$149,640.59; loans and



discounts, \$135,646.14. On December 31, 1918, the deposits were \$169,074.89; loans and discounts, \$158,859.98. The deposits December 31, 1919, were \$275,509.15; loans and discounts, \$286,383.26. In September, 1919, the capital was increased to \$15,000, and the surplus to \$3,000. F. A. Hodge was sole cashier up to June, 1919, when Arthur Funk was hired as helper, and the latter became assistant cashier January 1, 1920. John F. Cooke still remains president. Mr. Hyde was succeeded as vice-president in 1917 by W. D. Pencille, and as director by J. M. Meyer. In 1920 F. A. Hodge succeeded A. F. Polson as director.

**St. Clement Church, Hammond, Minn.**—The first Catholic settlers in the village of Hammond and vicinity, coming from centers of Christian influence, were not unmindful of the necessary spiritual things in their new homes. In the early days of the settlement the first few Catholic families were favored with occasional visits by the old and venerable pioneer priest, Father Tissot, of Wabasha, and his noble successor, Father James Trobec, who held religious services in the humble log cabins of the faithful. In the fall of 1879, Father Jacobs took charge of this station, having been appointed the first resident pastor at West Albany. In the spring of 1881 the first church was erected—a frame structure 26 by 36 feet, with a sanctuary 12 by 16 feet. The work on the building was done by John Wagner and Nicholas Nei. Father Boland succeeded Father Jacobs in 1883, and was followed by Fathers Ryan, Fox, Stolz, Shels and Schwartz. Under the pastoral administration of Rev. Fr. Shels, an addition 16 by 26 feet to the main body of the church was built, with a tower 72 feet in height, and a gallery in the interior of the church. Rev. Fr. Schwartz aided in the improvements of the church by frescoing the interior, excavating the basement, and purchasing two fine harmonious ringing bells. In November, 1900, Fr. Mueller took charge of the mission, and during his incumbency, which is still in force, various improvements inside and outside of the church have been made. The first settlers of this mission are: Math. Funk, Ed. Riley, W. Sauls, Pat Murray, Edward Kinney and M. McCarthy. What the first pioneers of this mission have done without thought of recompense will be a lasting memory forever. The cold hand of death cannot blot out the record of work they have accomplished as a strong impression upon the minds of the future generations.

REV. FRANCIS X. MUELLER.

#### HYDE PARK TOWNSHIP.

**Hyde Park Township** occupies that part of Congressional Township 109, Range 13, lying north of the Zumbro River. It is bounded on the north by Gillford, on the east by Oakwood, and on the south and west by Zumbro Township. The land is varied. Along the banks of the Zumbro and extending some two miles north the land is rough and hilly, and was originally covered with a heavy growth of oak timber.

In the early part of May, 1855, Paris Devitt and Samuel Parker settled in this district of country now known as Hyde Park. The next day after their arrival came John Ritter, Charles Holzman, William McCloud; and it was but a very short time until George and Seymore Fanning and the Baker families arrived and took up homesteads. It was the rolling farm-land, dotted with poplar groves, which attracted these men, some of whom came from northern Pennsylvania, while others from Maryland. The close of the summer of 1855 found almost every quarter-section "claimed," and a log cabin erected to shield the pioneer from Minnesota's wintry blasts. The winter of 1855-56 is a notable one in the history of the country as the "cold winter," and the early settlers suffered greatly since they were so far from mill and market, besides their means were very scanty. Many tales of hardship are related of that "cold winter." When the snow became so deep and the weather so cold that it was impossible to get the grain to mill, the old coffee mill was used, and the words



"Flannigan's Mill" bring back to many old settlers recollections of pioneer life in the winter of 1855-56.

At the time of the government survey the tract of land now included in the townships of Zumbro and Hyde Park was called Concord. This name, however, for some reason, did not suit the people, and at a meeting held May 11, 1858, the name Troy was chosen. The legislature would not accept this, however, as another town in the state held the same name, so it was named Zumbro, after the river which divided it. The larger part of the population lived on the south side of the river, and all township elections and meetings were held on that side. This was a source of trouble to the north side people, for at the spring and fall elections the river was swollen so much with the rains that they could not cross but with a risk of their lives, so a general feeling of dissatisfaction arose, which culminated in the spring of 1862, in dividing the township by the river, the south part retaining the name Zumbro. At the first meeting held north of the river the name Hyde Park was suggested by an Englishman, so that the township is named after one of the most famous places in London.

The first settlers of this township coming from centers of christian influence, were not unmindful of spiritual things in their new homes, and with the foundations of their log cabins they erected altars of prayer and praise. As early as 1856 religious services were held in the cabins of the farmers, and people old and young came to the meetings. The first preaching services in the township were held at the home of John Ritter, and the minister was the pioneer Jas. McArdell.

In 1856 Wm. Parker opened and stocked the first store in the township, which he operated until 1865. He was the first postmaster in the township. John Reller was the first blacksmith, and he opened the first shop in 1858. Francis Shaw had the first shoe-shop, which he opened in 1857. The first birth was that of Effie Woodward, born February 14, 1856. The first marriage was that of Isaac York and Mrs. Jane Shaw, June 22, 1856.

The first schoolhouse in the township was built in the summer of 1856, on the northeast corner of section 3. This schoolhouse was in the district now numbered 45. The first teacher was Mary Shaw, who received twelve dollars per month for her services. There were three families in the district: Shaws, Parkers and Yorks. The first school held in what is now known as district 46, was taught by Unus Potter in 1857 at a private house. The next year it was held in a barn owned by Mr. Peter Kelley, and the next year a log schoolhouse was built by the settlers. The first school in district 84 was taught by Lucy Roberts, probably about 1859.

At the time of the construction of the narrow-gauge railroad through the township, the question whether the township should bond itself was voted upon. At the first election the "bonding" was defeated, but after a few days the decision was reversed and the people agreed to pay \$6,000, giving seven per cent payable semi-annually. This was a large amount for so small a township to pay but they have gained great benefit from the road, since now they have a good market close at home, whereas, prior to the construction of the road, the grain and marketing had to be taken by wagon twenty to twenty-five miles.

**Jarretts** is a hamlet on the Midland Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. Before there was an inhabitant near the present site of the hamlet, there was a ford in the Zumbro where the old settlers in an early day crossed, and since the nearest dweller was Mr. Jarrett, the place came to be called "Jarrett's Ford," and when a postoffice was established it received the name of Jarretts. The hamlet really had its birth in 1878, when the narrow-gauge railroad was built. A flouring-mill, run by water-power, was built in 1878 by Kimball & Kitzman. The elevator was put up as a feeder to the flouring-mill at Mazeppa. Kimball operated the mill for two years or more,



selling to J. L. Owen. It subsequently passed into the hands of Fred G. Colburn, who has operated it since, and in 1918 the firm became F. G. Colburn & Son. F. W. Shaw established a general store about 1878, and continued in business here many years, or until he went to Oregon in 1905. His nephew, B. C. Shaw, then conducted the business for a short time, being succeeded by M. Golden. The latter sold to the present proprietor, George New. Jarretts has about 50 inhabitants.

#### ZUMBRO TOWNSHIP.

**Zumbro Township** embraces all of Township 109, Range 13, south of the Zumbro River, and all of Township 109, Range 14, south of the Zumbro River and east of the south branch thereof. The first settlers in this town—at that time Concord—were the Baileys, Thomas, George and Andrew, who came in the early part of 1855, and followed some time in the summer of 1856 by the Jenkins family, father and two sons, and a Mr. Baker.

The first school was taught in the late Isaac Jenkins claim shanty in the summer of 1859, by Miss Nellie Walker (some say Helen Everet, or Nannie Walker, but the majority say Nellie Walker), who received \$12 for the term of three months, and boarded herself. This school, now known as district 49, was organized in 1861, and the first school after its organization was held in a shanty built expressly for that purpose by York and Jenkins, and which was used for that purpose till 1864, when the red schoolhouse was built on section 31. The first teacher in the red schoolhouse was Hattie Ruber.

In 1863, a postoffice, called South Troy, was established, but at the end of two years was discontinued. In 1866, a Mr. John Ralton brought on a stock of goods and opened a store for the accommodation of the people in that section of the country.

The records show the first town meeting to have been held May 11, 1858, when the following officers were elected—then known as Troy: George Fanning (chairman), George Roberts, Edward York, supervisors; John Ritter, clerk; Isaac Jenkins, assessor; Parish Dewitt, collector; Francis W. Shaw, A. J. Jenkins, constables; George W. Fanning, Isaac Jenkins, justices.

The territory now covered by Zumbro, Mazeppa and Hyde Park is just equal to two full townships and was originally known as Mazeppa and Concord. Concord was the name of the election precinct, in which it was situated at the time of the government survey. Afterward, on May 11, 1858, at the first town meeting, the name of Troy was adopted by a vote of the people, by which name it was known till 1861. There being another town of the same name in the state, the legislature declined to endorse the action of the town meeting, and consequently it became necessary to call another meeting; this time to consider the propriety of dividing the town as well as adopting another name.

The river Zumbro entered the town of Troy from the northwest, in section 6, a quarter of a mile east of the town-line, and flowed in a southeasterly direction till it reached a point one mile south of the center of the town, where it turned and followed a northeasterly course, and finally leaving the town about on the line of sections 13 and 24, it being the center of the north and south line. This river rendered it so inconvenient for the people to meet, and especially so in the spring, that it was finally decided (the consent of the county commissioners having been obtained) at a town meeting held March 19, 1861, to divide the town, the Zumbro forming the boundary, and also to call the new town south of the river, Zumbro. Soon afterwards, all that portion of Mazeppa south of the Zumbro River and east of the south branch thereof was added to the new town of Zumbro.

The hamlets in Zumbro Township are South Trip and Bremen Corners. The village of Hammond lies partly in Zumbro and partly in Hyde Park.



## CHAPTER XV.

### ZUMBRO FALLS, GILLFORD AND CHESTER.

**Zumbro Falls** is a prosperous village on the banks of the Zumbro River and the Midland Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. It is well located, the business section being near the river level, while the school and many of the residences are on the heights overlooking the valley. The two churches, and some of the older residences, are across the river in what was the original village. Zumbro Falls has a bank, two elevators, a newspaper, a creamery, a telephone company and a stock shipping association. There are two churches, the Methodist and the Congregational. An Advent church flourished for a while, but the church building erected in 1894 has now been converted into a residence.

The history of Zumbro Falls dates from the old ford across the Zumbro on the territorial road leading from Lake City to Rochester. Here the road southward wound its way from the prairie down into the valley, crossed the river a few rods from the present railroad station, continued across what is now called "Drinkwater Flat," south of the river, and then up the grade onto the level of the prairie again, and southward. To this place in 1855 came David Tibbetts, who built a substantial log house on what is now the railroad right of way, south of lot 6, block 2, south row, Whaley's Addition, and nearby established a ferry. At the same time his brother, Abner, of Lake City, secured the land south of the river, but resided on it only long enough to enable him to prove up his claim. His cabin was on the high land south of what is now the Drinkwater Flat. On the ridge north of the village, some 30 or 40 rods north-east of the present schoolhouse, James B. Glover built a cabin in 1858.

Traffic over the road and ferry increased in 1858. John Van Smith built a house on the south side of the river near the ferry, and opened a hotel, furnishing a convenient stopping-place for travelers. In 1859 Edwin Beeman built a shoe shop and Orrin Pencille a blacksmith shop. These two men had no families and lived at the Smith Hotel.

The flood of 1858 covered the flat and did considerable damage. The inhabitants took refuge on higher land, Mr. Tibbetts' family being rescued through the gable end of the roof. The cabin withstood the rush of the waters, but it was flooded nearly to the upper story. As a picture of the life in those times, it is told that Mr. Tibbetts kept his old musket hung from the rafters by leather thongs just under the upper floor and the water flooded the hammers of this old weapon.

About the beginning of the Civil War, Uriah S. Whaley bought out David Tibbetts, moved into his house and started operating the ferry. The village south of the river became quite a hamlet, given a considerable impetus by the surveying, grading and building of the railroad. Among the business houses on that side of the river were those of Charles Bryant, blacksmith shop; David Willard, harness shop; John Dale, wagon shop; Perry Card, hotel; Fidel Sugg, general store; James Burns, saloon and store; Mathias Bright, harness shop; Dr. Rogers, drug store; E. A. Harridan, general store. William Oliver erected a hall, a neat structure with mural paintings, and this became one of the social centers of the community. A Methodist church was also built.

In the meantime Benjamin Clark put in a dam at the rapids which gave the village its name, and erected a grist mill, which he operated for a number of years. When the railroad came through, Mr. Whaley platted a village on the



north side of the river, and Whaley's Addition is what now constitutes the village of Zumbro Falls.

In that year, 1878, E. B. Doty erected a store on lot 10, block 1, north row, Whaley's Addition, and opened a hardware store. At the same time a duplicate of the Doty store was erected on lot 11, and William Churchill opened a drug store therein. Other business houses followed. After the cyclone of 1883, E. A. Harridan moved his store and postoffice from the old village to lot 8, block 1, north row, Whaley's Addition.

Business began to die away on the south side of the river, and that hamlet never recovered from the cyclone of 1883. Fidel Sugg and Dr. Rogers were the first to give up business there. The locality is now a residence section, with two churches, the village park, and a number of pleasant homes.

In the meantime Whaley's Addition has grown into the village of Zumbro Falls, taking the name of the former village south of the river. The station which is in this part of the village was not established until several years after the building of the railroad, as the township refused to vote a bonus. In a short time, however, the business of the hamlet demanded it and the station was established. When S. D. Welch engaged in business here in 1894, the village was already one of some size. The business was then nearly all on the north row of Whaley's Addition. The depot had been built, a hotel opened and an elevator established. J. M. Stegner, Son, John Strickland and E. B. Doty had general stores. U. J. Disney had a lumber yard and hardware store, the Stevens Opera House had been built, and G. W. Stevens was operating a blacksmith shop. The schoolhouse was near the location of the present school. The Advent church was also on this side of the river. John Strickland is still in business here. W. J. Disney but recently retired.

Mr. Welch bought in with J. M. Stegner and continued business with him for awhile before securing sole ownership. After continuing for some time alone, he took his son-in-law, L. E. Scruby, as a partner. The firm is now known as Scruby & Co.

The first crossing of the river here was by ford. Later the ferry was built. The first bridge was a pontoon structure of five flatboats, strung together on an iron rod fastened to a stone pier in the middle. The bridge was built by Samuel Doughty. This bridge was smashed by the ice, and replaced by a wooden bridge built by Horace E. Horton. This latter bridge was the one carried away by the cyclone. The structure built to replace it fell out of repair, and the present bridge was erected in its stead. Before the latter was built there was considerable agitation as to its location, many desiring it further down the river and nearer the present village. As finally built, however, it occupied the old site, with its south end leading directly to the heart of the old village.

With the increase in population and the erection of a number of new houses in the spring of 1896, there came a concerted demand for an organized village government. As the result of the work of a number of prominent citizens, a meeting was held, November 3, 1897, with Samuel Welch as chairman and Dr. Thomas R. Watson as clerk. Shortly afterward a committee of four, previously suggested by L. A. Doty, consisting of Samuel D. Welch, J. C. Strickland, W. J. Disney and Dr. T. R. Watson, consulted with attorney A. J. Green of Lake City. A census taken November 8 showed a population within the proposed limits of one hundred and ninety-three. A petition was presented to the county board, November 24, 1897, signed by E. J. Stegner, Thomas R. Watson, L. A. Doty, E. B. Doty, Baxter Doty, J. B. Glover, B. C. Disney, J. M. Stegner, William Potter, C. E. Kirkham, O. S. Clark, J. T. Ritter, H. F. Anding, N. Rosenbloom, E. J. Strickland, J. L. Strickland, F. B. Anding, W. J. Grogan, S. Handshaw, L. A. Scruby, S. M. Stegner, Pratt Drinkwalter, Frank Sugg, A. C. Hermann, John Vogel, S. D. Welch, W. J. Disney, Henry Bielfeldt, Theo. Pfeiffer, Mike Pfeiffer, T. J. Kirkman, C. F. Scholer, Uriah Whaley, O. E. Kirkman,



G. W. Stevens, David Whaley, Warren Clough, Nathan Whaley, O. R. Bint, G. H. Claflin, B. W. Disney, William H. Claflin, W. D. Little, Peter Theisen, Henry Norton, T. B. Warring, E. V. Beals, A. H. Sugg and John Carr. The petition was granted and the election ordered held February 8, 1898. At the election the proposition was carried by a vote of 49 to 11, and the following officers chosen: President, S. D. Welch; trustees, J. L. Strickland, T. B. Warring and L. A. Doty; recorder, T. R. Watson; treasurer, E. B. Doty; justices, George W. Stevens and Pratt Drinkwalter; constables, John T. Ritter and Clarence Kirkham. The first council meeting was held February 28, 1898. At an election held November 26, 1898, there were 41 votes cast for separation and 2 against. The presidents of the village have been as follows: 1898 and 1899, S. D. Welch; 1900 and 1901, Pratt Drinkwalter; 1902, L. E. Scruby; 1903 and 1904, A. Roberson; 1905 and 1906, Pratt Drinkwalter; 1907, L. A. Doty; 1908, Pratt Drinkwalter; 1909, J. C. Brinkman; 1910 and 1911, Thomas Baker; 1912, R. Warren; 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916, H. R. Gray; 1917, J. J. Frieheit; 1918, Nelson Watts; 1919, John A. Klindworth. The recorders have been: 1898 and 1899, T. R. Watson; 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903 and 1904, B. W. Disney; 1905 and 1906, C. G. Burcher; 1907, 1908 and 1909, L. W. Disney; 1910, F. J. Sugg; 1911, L. W. Disney; 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918 and 1919, B. R. Theisen.

The village improvements consist of a park, a village hall, a waterworks system and a sewer system.

The stone "watch house" was erected in 1898. The waterworks system was installed in 1907 and the village hall erected the same year. The following year the hose cart and hose were purchased. The waterworks system consists of the pumping station at the village hall, a well nearby, a tank on the hill, and a system of mains and hydrants. The sewer system was put in in 1914. In 1915 the "watch house" was abandoned, and cages installed in the village hall. The triangular park south of the bridge was laid out in 1899 and trees planted. A street light system of individual oil lamps was installed in 1899 and abandoned in 1907.

When the Farmers Elevator was established in 1900, the village appropriated \$30 to help pay a solicitor for selling stock for the purpose. In 1904 a franchise was granted the Zumbro Falls Farmers Telephone Company.

The first postmaster was probably Uriah S. Whaley, who kept the office at his cabin north of the river. He was followed by E. A. Harridan, who kept it at his store south of the river. Next came John Strickland, whose successor was J. B. Glover. Under Cleveland's second administration, Mr. Strickland again served. He was followed by William J. Disney, who in turn was succeeded by A. H. Sugg, who is still in office.

**The Zumbro Falls Enterprise** was established October 3, 1908, by Hugh R. Smith, and by him sold to the present editor, Fred J. Barton, March 1, 1919.

**Hyde Park Lodge, No. 46, I. O. O. F.**—This lodge was moved to Zumbro Falls, and was here continued for many years. The lodge surrendered its charter in 1914. The last officers were: Noble Grand, A. Roberson; vice-grand, J. Morrisey; recording secretary, L. E. Scruby; treasurer, A. H. Sugg. This lodge absorbed Mazeppa Lodge, No. 72, I. O. O. F.

The children in this vicinity first attended school in a schoolhouse north of the present village, built in 1859. Later a schoolhouse was erected in the village, not far from the present site. It was destroyed by the cyclone in 1883 and replaced with another. The present brick structure was erected in 1913.

**The Zumbro Falls State Bank** was organized June 6, 1907, and opened for business August 5, 1907. The original stockholders were: William J. Disney, B. W. Disney, E. C. Disney, L. W. Disney, Henry R. Gray, Richard Greer, F. B. Roberson, Maze F. Thierstein, Emil A. Gray, H. A. Frieheit and William Saul, of Zumbro Falls, and W. D. Marvin and L. L. Cornwell of Pine Island. The first directors were: William J. Disney, W. D. Marvin, L. L. Cornwell, Henry R. Gray and William Saul. The first officers were: President, L. L. Cornwell;



vice-president, Henry R. Gray; cashier, B. W. Disney. Mr. Cornwell was succeeded as president, January 14, 1912, by William Saul, and on January 13, 1920, by C. W. Radabough. Fred C. Heise succeeded Mr. Gray as vice-president. Mr. Disney has had charge of the bank as cashier since the beginning. The present directors are: Fred C. Heise, F. B. Roberson, J. E. John Steere, J. J. Springer, William J. Disney, C. W. Radabough, William Saul and C. J. Meyers. For a time Mr. Disney operated the bank alone. H. H. Billings became the assistant cashier January 14, 1913. May Drinkwalter became assistant bookkeeper in August, 1913, and was made assistant cashier January 13, 1914. Edna L. Schultz became bookkeeper November 1, 1918. G. N. Reppe, who is still serving, became assistant cashier January 1, 1919. The bank opened in temporary quarters, the present building being completed the same year. It is admirably equipped for its purpose in every way, and is the financial and business headquarters of the village. The original capital stock of \$10,000 was on March 27, 1919, increased to \$20,000. December 31, 1910, the loans and discounts were \$106,555.91, the deposits \$134,709.24. December 31, 1915, the loans and discounts were \$180,923.59, and the deposits \$176,717.02. December 31, 1919, the capital was \$20,000; the surplus, \$5,000; the undivided profits, \$1,781.94; the loans and discounts, \$270,986.60; the deposits, \$339,649.37.

**The Methodist Episcopal Church** of Zumbro Falls was organized in 1875 through the efforts of the Shores and Suggs of Glasgow Township, the Sprengers of La Crosse and the Rietmanns of Hay Creek, Goodhue County. These families settled here and organized a Sunday school. From this effort grew the present church. H. E. Young was the first pastor assigned. The charter members of this organization were: Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Shores, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Sprenger, Mr. and Mrs. F. Sugg, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Reitmann, and the children of these families. The first services were held in a private home in 1876. An old building was purchased and remodeled into a small church building, the remodeling being done principally by Mr. Sugg. The following pastors have served this church at different periods: H. E. Young, Adam Miller, L. J. Brenner, William Berg, Herman Meyer, G. E. Rabe, Frederick Hogrofe, Geo. Rheinfrank, D. Pfaff, C. H. Miller, F. E. Meierbachtol, E. P. Christ, Herman Nedtwick and A. B. Gould, the present pastor. During C. H. Miller's term of ministry the present church building was erected—a neat and tasty village church. Services were held in the German language to about 1915. Since that time the services have been held in English. The present membership of the church is 66 enrolled members, with an average attendance of about 125. During late years especial attention has been given the Sunday school work, with the result that this congregation is looked to as a leader in this work throughout this section. This school, at the suggestion of J. J. Sprenger, instituted the Sunday school quarterly review which has become very popular and effective. The church is a live, working church with men and women in it having a real concern for its welfare and is an influential factor in the life of the community.

**The Congregational Church** of Zumbro Falls was organized November 15, 1890, with four members, Pratt Drinkwalter, E. J. Stegner, C. J. Street and E. Butruff. The early meetings were held in the Methodist Episcopal church. The congregation dedicated its own church December 14, 1890, and in the same year, on August 5, the Congregational society was incorporated, the first officers being: G. W. Stevens, president; John Vogel, clerk, and Minnie Smith, treasurer. The pastors of the church have been the Rev. Messrs. William McArthur, J. C. Huntington, A. L. Struthers, I. C. Todd, J. E. Ingham, J. C. Huntington, W. H. Moore, Frank Ferguson, J. L. Nott, Irving B. Hollman, S. T. Beattie, C. H. Moxie, Paul Albert and John Hayes Barnett. The Rev. A. B. Gould now serves both the Congregational and Methodist churches.

#### GILLFORD TOWNSHIP.

Gillford Township occupies Township 110, Range 13. It is bounded on the north by Mount Pleasant, on the east by West Albany, on the south by Hyde



Park and on the west by Chester. The land of this township has a gentle roll. It is situated midway between the original forests and rough land, bordering on the Zumbro on the south, and the similar land along the Mississippi on the north. There is an abundance of clear-running water, which renders stock-raising a profitable undertaking.

In the early part of May, 1855, Wm. McCloud, George and Seymour Fanning came to this township, and after taking claims and working through the summer season, they returned to Illinois for the winter and in the following spring they returned here with their families. The same year, 1855, Jos. Fuller took a claim near Mazeppa, but being discouraged by a heavy frost in June was about to return to Illinois when his brother-in-law, Mr. Gill, dissuaded him, and they both settled in Gillford. In the fall of 1855 Mr. Gill returned to Illinois for his family; after spending the winter there and when returning here he was taken sick and died. Mrs. Gill, however, settled in this township, and on account of her amiable character the township was named for her. Mr. McCloud was a man of very great worth to county and township. He laid out the roads in the township; he was a great patron of schools; he did his utmost to promote religious interest in the community; as regards hospitality he could not be surpassed. In the spring of 1856 Messrs. E. M. Hoyt, E. F. Hoyt, W. F. Green and F. Lamb came to this township and took claims in the northwestern part.

The first teacher in the township was Lizzie Green (Bartlett), who taught a select school in a "claim shanty," 10 by 12 feet in dimensions, in the summer of 1858, in the bounds of the district now known as No. 15. The second school was established on section 12, near the present schoolhouse No. 19, and the first teacher was Rosa Montgomery.

Until the summer of 1859 no religious services were held in the township. In that summer a Sunday school was organized at Oak Centre, and after that was in successful operation, two more were organized. As yet there was no preacher or preaching. In the spring of 1860 James Stillwell came into the township and took a claim. It was soon known that he was a Methodist exhorter, so he was waited upon and asked to preach at Oak Centre the following sabbath. He preached, and the people were so well pleased that he made several appointments, and thus the work continued throughout the summer. In the course of several months a great revival took place, which was so widespread that three new churches were organized, which still exist.

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**, commonly called the "Lincoln Congregation," was founded July 15, 1881, with eight charter members, namely: Carsten Siems, John Sass, Martin Johnson, John Boesch, Dietrich Recjmann, H. Meyer, H. Dammann and Peter Zimmerman. The first board of trustees was composed of John Sass, Martin Johnson and Carsten Siems. A small frame building was erected in which services were held up to 1902, when a church edifice was put up at a cost of \$5,000. The first building is now used as a church school. This property is located in Gillford Township, two miles southeast of Oak Centre. The first pastor was the Rev. Christ Murer, who served nine years. He was followed by Rev. George Terben, whose pastorate lasted eight years. Rev. Otto Sievers, who came next, served six years, and was succeeded by Rev. Paul Beck, who remained pastor for eleven years. The present pastor, Rev. W. F. Rolf, was called in 1917. The congregation has at present 191 communicants, of whom 56 are voting members. The present board of trustees is composed of Fred Heise, D. Klindworth and John Bartels. The school has an enrollment of 29 and is taught by the pastor. It is held nine months in each year. The other officers of the congregation are: George La Mont, secretary, and A. J. Siewert, treasurer.

The first marriage was that of E. S. Fanning and Hannah Fanning in the spring of 1865. The first child born was Mary Fanning, a daughter of the above. The first death was that of Samuel Fanning, in the fall of 1856.



At the time of the construction of the narrow-gauge railroad through the township a vote was taken whether the town should bond itself. It was lost by a few votes. There are six thousand two hundred and sixty-nine acres of land under cultivation. Politically the township is republican.

The first town meeting was held at the house of L. W. Manning on May 11, 1856. The result of the first election was as follows: E. M. Hoyt, L. W. Manning, David Fanning, supervisors; E. M. Rider, town clerk; James Morehead, William McCloud, justices of the peace; S. Tysdel, assessor; William Green, overseer of poor. The number of votes cast was thirty-four.

Oak Centre is a hamlet in section 5. For several years a postoffice was located in the store there. The name was given by C. C. Lowe on account of the abundance of oak trees in the vicinity.

The Oak Centre Creamery Co. was organized in 1913 with the following officers: President, George La Mont; vice-president, Henry H. Blohm; secretary, George Beaty; treasurer, A. J. Stewert. The company has a well equipped building. In 1919 the factory turned out 165,000 pounds of butter fat, which was marketed principally in Philadelphia. Chester Winters is now president of the concern, with Fred Heitman vice-president.

Jacksonville is a hamlet near the line between sections 11 and 12.

#### CHESTER TOWNSHIP.

Chester Township occupies Congressional Township 110, Range 14. It is bounded on the north and west by Goodhue County, on the east by Gillford Township and on the south by Mazeppa Township. The Zumbro river crosses its southwest and southeast quarter-sections. In the southeastern portion of the town there are several fine groves. The general configuration is quite uneven, the region being traversed by numerous valleys, but a rich prairie loam covers the whole and affords a handsome return to the tiller of the soil. A deep valley tributary to the Zumbro, with its several branches, drains the whole surface. Through this valley a bear was pursued by the early settlers, and the region became known as Bear Valley. Trout Brook flows through the southwestern part.

On section 12 of this town is a rare natural cave of large dimensions. It was discovered by Tyler Whipple, in the summer of 1856. Numerous apartments exist, and several have been entered and examined. The exterior entrance is found on the side of a small mound, and the explorer is obliged to descend a narrow passage to gain admission. The passages leading to some of the apartments are so low that one must lie on the face and creep to reach them. The labor is, however, well repaid by a sight of the beautiful stalactites which depend from the roof. One of these rooms is in the form of an inverted jug, the entrance being made through the mouth. In another place is found a well of limpid water; in another a deep pit has been found, whose depth is shown to be very great by the time occupied by a pebble in reaching the bottom.

On section 8, many years since, a solid piece of wood was found at a depth of sixty-four feet, in a well dug on the farm of Philip Arendt.

During the winter of 1854-55 a party of St. Paul gentlemen who were out on a trapping, hunting and fishing expedition, encamped on Trout Brook in the southwestern part of the town. Among the number was James M. Kimble, who was so pleased with the stream, filled with fine trout, that he determined to settle there. On returning to St. Paul he secured tools and supplies and set out with only one companion to establish a claim. There were hundreds of men at Red Wing waiting for the snow to settle, but Mr. Kimble and his companion pushed on. They lived two weeks in a cloth tent on the banks of the creek, while getting cut material and building a cabin. Thus a claim was established in February, on the northwest quarter of section 30, and here Mr. Kimble brought his family in April following. The next settler was probably G. Maxwell, Mazeppa, followed by Peter Bcuillard, an Alsatian Frenchman, who still lives



on his original claim, on section 28. He came in May, and during the same month came Joseph Caswell and four sons—Joseph, Jesse, Cyrus and Hiram; Edward Hunt, William Washey, William Davis, and two sons—Robert and James; Daniel Slaymaker and two sons—Reuben and Henry; Greenberry Triplett. This year also saw the arrival of Francis Jerry, W. W. Day, G. W. Judd, Wells B. Smith and Thomas Cliff.

Isadore, son of Francis and Elizabeth Jerry, was probably the first white child born in Chester, his birth dating May 13, 1857. In June, 1857, a daughter was born to Nelson B. and Margery Smith, and christened Lottie Ann. She became the wife of John McCabe, and resides in the town. On July 14, 1856, Cyrus L. Caswell and Margaret Jenkins, of this town, were united in marriage at Mazeppa. This is the earliest marriage of Chester's citizens. In the fall of the same year two persons, Edward Hunt and Sarah Washley, agreed to live together as man and wife, and had a contract drawn up to that effect. I. T. Nicholls, of Mazeppa, executed and witnessed this document. The month of May, 1857, also dates the first death in the town. At this time a ten-year-old daughter of William Davis, named Agnes, passed away.

During the winter of 1856-57, Sidney Cross taught a rate school in Caswell's house. During the following winter timbers were got out, and in the spring of 1858 Bear Valley log schoolhouse was erected.

In 1873 Evander and M. Skillman, brothers, built a gristmill on the west side of section 19 on Trout Brook. A gristmill was built on the Zumbro in the extreme southeast corner of the town by Benjamin Clark in 1866, and did a good business till it was destroyed by fire in the spring of 1882.

No stores were maintained within the limits of the town until 1877. During this year Anthony Caspar built a large store on the north line of the town, at Belle Chester. In the spring of 1883 John P. Wagner and John M. Weimar built a fine store on the northeast corner of section 5, opposite Caspar's, and put in a large general stock. This building and its contents were totally consumed by fire on the morning of November 22, the same year, causing a loss of seven thousand dollars.

The Bear Valley postoffice was established in 1856, with Joseph Caswell as postmaster, and was supplied by the Wabasha and Faribault stage line for some time. Mail is now received twice a week by the Lake City and Mazeppa stage route. Early postmasters were: Silas Cross, James M. McMillan, C. M. Bontelle, E. H. Smith, William Morris and Charles E. Buckminster.

The town was politically organized May 11, 1858. The meeting was held at the house of Joseph Caswell, Jr., and the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Chairman, F. M. Skillman; associate supervisors, R. H. Davis and Jesse M. Caswell; clerk, John A. Slaymaker; he soon resigned and S. J. Buckminster was appointed November 11; assessor and collector, John Rawalt; overseer of the poor, Wells Smith; constables, R. H. Davis and E. W. Hunt; justices, Alfred Ambler and J. A. Skillman. N. B. Smith was appointed collector November 16. The town was originally called Bear Valley and changed to Chester.

**Bear Valley Grange.**—Patrons of Husbandry began its existence about 1870. In 1874 a hall was built by the society on the southwest quarter of section 23.

**The Methodist Episcopal Church** was the first religious body to have an organization in Chester Township. There were two local elders of the Methodist Episcopal church in the town in 1856, namely, A. E. Standish and Greenberry Triplett. Meetings were held under the leadership of these gentlemen during the year 1856 in Joseph Caswell's house. About the same time, or early in 1857, Rev. Ralph Frasier, a local elder residing in Mazeppa, preached at the same place. To Mr. Standish is given the credit of preaching the first sermon in the town. Rev. Nelson Moon, a local elder, settled in Bear Valley in 1864, and at once began preaching at Bear Valley schoolhouse. The class was formed



August 27, 1864, composed of: Nelson, Casandra and Emma Moon, R. H. Davis, Samuel and Emeline Converse, Mrs. H. J. Crump, Huldah Cliff, Joseph and A. B. Spaulding, Susan Merrill, Hiram, Almira and Frances Stacy, Isaac Waters, David Jones, Margaret Caswell, James A. and Mrs. A. Davis, Philo Tenyke and wife. This class was assigned to Gillford circuit.

Rev. Frederick Hill, a Baptist clergyman, who settled in Zumbro—then Hyde Park—in 1856, soon after held meetings in this town and organized a class.

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bear Valley.**—The Lutherans at Bear Valley organized with 20 voting members in the year 1888, and selected the above name for the church. The pastors who have served the congregation have been: Rev. Lange, 1887 to 1900; Rev. Ottomar T. Sievers, 1900 to 1906; Rev. Paul Beck, 1906 to 1916; Rev. W. C. Limpert, 1917 to the present time. There are now 21 voting members and 123 communicants.



## CHAPTER XVI.

### MILLVILLE, OAKWOOD AND HIGHLAND.

Millville is a village on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, 29 miles southwest of Wabasha. It is in Section 18, Oakwood Township, and is picturesquely situated on heights overlooking the Zumbro Valley, the station itself lying in the valley. Though it is a small place, it is essentially an up-to-date community, having constructed water-works, established a commercial club, known as the Millville Improvement Club, and having a weekly newspaper—the Millville Review, a hotel, a grain elevator, the Millville State Bank, and the Millville creamery, besides several stores and other places of business. The Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company furnishes local communication with the surrounding country, and there are two churches, Evangelical and Swedish Lutheran.

Millville was started in 1870, when John Huny opened a store. The post-office was moved to the store from a nearby farm, and Mr. Huney made postmaster. Peter Holtein built a blacksmith shop the same year. The coming of the railroad gave the village new life, and soon there was two stores, owned by J. B. Miller and Mullen & Leonard; next two hotels; then John Behrns ran a store for a time; then were built a wagon-shop; a small grainhouse, in which was the warehouse and telegraph office; next year the depot and addition to the grainhouse; then a fancy-store and a shoeshop. In 1880 McGuigan Bros., drygoods and groceries, and J. S. Bisby, hardware, started business, and in 1881 came the first permanent physician, Dr. Royal A. Gove. From about 1879 to 1881 Claus Behrns run the Midland brewery, but it was accidentally burned.

**Millville Post Office** was established in 1869, on the farm of Ole Christopher, with Charles Flemming as postmaster. It was moved to the village in 1870, and John Huny made postmaster.

**The Millville State Bank** was organized September 27, 1904, with a cash capital of \$10,000, and with J. W. Nolan as president, W. H. Kiley, vice-president, and P. J. Cosgrove, cashier. The bank has proved a strong factor in the upbuilding of the community. At the end of the year 1919 its statement showed a surplus of \$8,000 and deposits of \$274,000, its capital remaining at \$10,000. The present officers are: J. W. Nolan, president; W. H. Kiley, vice-president; P. J. Cosgrove, cashier; W. H. Wadley, assistant cashier; Albert Olson and P. J. Polson.

### OAKWOOD TOWNSHIP.

Oakwood Township embraces Township 109, Range 12. It is bounded on the north by West Albany, on the east by Highland, on the south by Elgin and a small part of Plainview and on the west by Hyde Park and Zumbro. A rolling prairie, bordering on Greenwood Prairie, it is cut by the rocky Zumbro valley, separating the several northwestern sections from the main part; by the Middle Creek ravine separating the several northeastern sections; and lastly, by the Long Creek ravine, which winds through the center from south to north, and opens into the Zumbro valley not far from the opening of Middle creek. Along their route smaller valleys and ravines open into these. The Zumbro valley, with its rocky cliffs varying from two hundred to three hundred and seventy feet in height, overhanging and winding its rocky and wooded sides about in a bewildering manner, affords some very picturesque and romantic scenery. While the northern part of the township is chiefly clay, the southern is more black loam and clay mixed, making a fine soil. The oak, hazel, etc.,



underbrush that once nearly covered the prairie, is now confined to the bluffs, valleys and ravines. In the northern part of the township, in the coolies, there is more timber-cak, elm, cottonwood and maple. Along the Zumbro River valley are river-terraces about half way up the bluffs, some of the larger of which are of sufficient size for a village.

Lyman Gregg prospected for claims here in 1855 but did not settle here. Henry Powell took a claim in 1855. The settlers of 1856 were: Mathew Kinsella and his son Mathew, David and James Foley, Patrick and Lawrence Tracey and William Tope. About this time also came Barnard McNulty, James McPike, Michael Campbell, Patrick McQuigan, Henry Martin and Patrick Fleming. Many of these came prospecting, selected homes and built huts, then in the fall returned to their former homes to get their families. Mr. Crozier was also here, living in his wagon.

The bachelor life led by many of these in their wagon or hut was not enviable. Patrick McQuigan brought for his winter supply seven barrels of flour; the Indians were difficult to convince that his house was not an agency. One of the heaviest snows fell that winter, about four feet on a level. The Indians, with snow-shoes, killed deer extravagantly; finding them in the valley in an open place corralled by the deep snow, they would kill them merely for the skin. About seven hundred were camping in the valley that winter. They were not troublesome, and not many months later left.

Mat. Kinsellas, Sr. and Jr., Charles and Patrick Fleming, Richard Leighart and James Perkins kept bachelor's hall for nearly three years. They had five yoke of oxen, and all worked together, each helping the other.

The first roads were across the prairie toward Plainview, the nearest way. The first bluff-road was between Millville site and P. G. Dickman's. The first surveyed road was laid out about 1859, along the south side of section 25, and south and west sides of section 26, north, entering the Long Creek ravine. It was known as the Long Creek road. The second laid out was probably that from Bremen, passing Messrs. Quisel's, Grove's and Pratt's, about 1860. On account of ravines few of the roads follow section lines. James Chapman, on northeast part of section 22, built the first sawmill of the township, about 1860, but soon sold it to Abner Tibbets, who continued it for but a few years. The first gristmill was built on Middle creek in 1868 by Samuel Irish. The first blacksmith-shop was built by Henry Powell, probably in 1856; the only one until Peter Holstein built his in Millville a number of years later. The first birth was Patrick Tracy's daughter, Elizabeth Tracy, in February, 1857. Anna Tracy, daughter of Lawrence Tracy, was born in March following. The first marriage ceremony was performed by Father Tissot, a Catholic missionary, when he gave Mathew Kinsella, Jr., a wife. Henry Powell was married quite early, too, and in a romantic manner. It is said he and his intended stood on one bank of Long creek, while the justice stood on the opposite shore and performed the ceremony. Death made his first visit in the spring of 1858, taking a babe of William Tope, and one of George Martin. The first (private) school was taught either by Mrs. Louis Evans or Mrs. J. H. Bernard, at their homes, in the winter of 1859-60. Mr. Evans also taught early school. The first school-house was in district No. 24, near Patrick McQuigan's, built about 1861. Dr. James Chapman, the builder of the first sawmill, was the first physician, starting in the winter of 1858 and after. He also preached, holding services now and then at his home and at the Powell's.

The town was organized May 11, 1858, the first town meeting being held on that date. Originally it was called Pell or Pellville in honor of John H. Pell. The first chairman was Lawrence Tracy and the first clerk was Dr. James Chapman. The first records are destroyed. Prominent in the early official history of the town were James Foley, John Behrns, J. K. Smith, Claus Behrns, and J. Evans. From Pell the name of the town was changed to Sherman and in 1872 to Oakwood. In the winter of 1858-59, the several northwestern sec-



tions of the township cut off by the Zumbro were joined to West Albany, but in 1867, the legislature at the request of the people returned the sections to their former jurisdictions, thus giving the town its present boundaries. When the Midland Railroad Co. was projected the town voted bonds of \$22,000. The first town hall was built in 1875 on section 15, but was several years afterward sold, and a schoolhouse secured for town meetings.

**The Oakwood Catholic Church** dates back to the early days. In 1858 Father Tissot first held mass in David Foley's house. From then until 1867 it was held about five times a year at Mathew Kinsella's. During 1866 the church building, 20 by 60 feet, was erected. An addition was built in 1878. A cemetery was also started. Early priests were the Rev. Fathers Tissot, Trobec, Jeram, Reinhardt and Murray.

**Keegan** is a railroad station in section 3. It was named from the owner of the land, J. Keegan, was started in 1879 as a station. A saloon, blacksmith-shop and store, the last mentioned kept by J. Judge, comprised its business until 1880, when the depot and grainhouse was added. The following year Mr. Judge was made postmaster of the new postoffice. A bridge crosses the Zumbro here, which, with the Millville bridge, includes all Zumbro bridges in the township.

### HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP.

**Highland Township** embraces Congressional Township 109, Range 11. It is bounded on the north by Glasgow, on the east by Watopa, on the south by Winona County and Plainview Township, and on the west by Oakwood.

The soil is a black loam with a clay subsoil, heavier in the northern and central portions, and lighter on the more open prairie-like portions in the south. The surface is undulating, and in the north and east broken by bluffs and high hills that hedge in more or less narrow valleys. Along these bluff ledges grow timber, chiefly oak. The entire surface was originally covered with short, stubby oaks and other woods, and more or less undergrowth. Through these valleys flow such streams as pay tribute to the Zumbro on the north. The largest of these is known as West Indian creek; it rises in the southern central part of the township and flows down a beautiful valley, from twenty to one hundred rods in width, to the northward.

Early in 1855, Oliver Nelson and his family settled near the southern line of what is now Highland Township. Their activities were largely confined, however, to the northern part of Plainview Township. Patrick McDonough came that year and settled in the northeast corner in Cook's Valley. John Canfield came at about the same time. The first birth of a white child in the township occurred some time in the spring or summer of 1855, the child being Maria Sullivan, daughter of Thomas and Mary Sullivan. The first deaths of settlers also occurred during this season, the victims being two men by the names of Pugh and Green, who had come on to build them homes in the western Eldorado. They had scarcely more than had time to rear a humble habitation when they were stricken down with cholera morbus and lived but a few hours. Fear of the disease seized the few neighbors that surrounded them, and they were buried by a few faithful friends at night in Cook's valley, near their deserted domicile, without funeral rites.

It was not until the opening of another season that the tide of immigration seemed to set in toward Highland; but in 1856 and 1857 there flocked in from the states a large number of Irish and Germans, and a fair sprinkling of Yankees.

In 1856 Daniel J. Watkins erected a sawmill on West Indian creek, on section 16, in Highland. Five years later Mr. Watkins found that the community had greater need for a gristmill than they had for a sawmill, and at once proceeded to remove the latter and erect in its stead the first gristmill of Highland. This same season Alfred Lathrop opened a store nearby, and the follow-



ing year, 1862, Lyons postoffice was established here, with Mr. Lathrop as postmaster. The postoffice was discontinued in 1881.

In 1866 Henry Hampe erected a gristmill on Indian creek, about two miles below the Watkins mill. This mill was burned down February 19, 1881.

In 1858 the inhabitants of Highland petitioned the postal authorities for the establishment of a postoffice in southeast Highland, along the Rochester and Wabasha stage route. The petition was granted, a commission was issued to Israel Smith as postmaster, and the office was dubbed Smithfield; before the arrival of this commission Mr. Smith left the country. Soon after Thomas Smith opened a little store on section 24, and was about to be appointed to this office when his store burned down, and he also departed from the country. The third petition in the summer of 1859 resulted in James S. Felton becoming the first postmaster. This same summer the Dugans, of Wabasha, who had quite an extensive landed interest in this part of the county, erected a store and a hotel; a blacksmith-shop was also a feature of this pioneer hamlet. In 1862 the Jameses bought out the Dugans, and about three years later abandoned the store and closed up the hotel, thus terminating the business life of Smithfield, though the postoffice was continued for many years. C. G. Dawley was the postmaster for a long period.

The first teaching was done by Ursula Metcalf, afterward wife of Levi Emery, in district 39, known as the Rich district, in the southwestern portion of the township. In district 37, or the Stanfield Spring school, the first teaching was in a log house near the site of the present building, in the spring of 1860, by Aurora Albertson. In the Highland district, No. 40, Ann Robbins taught a school in the summer of 1859. The schoolhouse was an octagonal structure, provided by Wm. T. James, then a prominent man in that part of the township. It was framed in Wabasha and drawn to the place of erection in sections, and for years did duty as both church and schoolhouse. The Hampe Mill district, No. 64, and the Appel's Mill district, No. 66, both located in West Indian Creek valley, were also pioneer districts. The schoolhouses in Highland are in excellent condition, and are in marked contrast with the rude log huts that only a few years ago attested the high regard which the poor but intelligent pioneers of this township had for education in early days.

The first Protestant preaching in the Highland district was done by the Rev. J. L. Dyer in the fall of 1859, at the residence of Stillman Hathaway; and the following year the Methodist and Baptist societies were organized. A Sunday school was also established about this time, with A. T. James as the first superintendent.

Of religious life in Highland in 1884 it has been said: "The remnants of the once thriving Baptist, Methodist, Congregationalist and Lutheran societies are scattered, and have been gathered into other christian folds, principally located in the neighboring village of Plainview. Preaching is occasionally held in the Highland schoolhouse, in southeast Highland, and the Methodist Episcopal society (chiefly Norwegians) have a parsonage and sustain regular services in the southwest part of the township; while at Hampe's Mill there still stands the old log church erected by the German Reform or Evangelical congregation in 1866, and still supplied with a pastor, who resides in West Albany, but holds services here biweekly. The Presbyterians in an early day were also sufficiently strong to sustain preaching at the Appel Mills schoolhouse, but have not been able to keep up their organization of late years. Each society of three—Baptist, Methodist and Congregationalist—has taken its turn at conducting revivals in the Highland schoolhouse, and much vigorous religious work has been done within its walls."

**Church of the Immaculate Conception.**—Religious services were held in this parish at an early date in private houses, and so continued until 1866, when the first church, a frame structure, 12 by 20 feet, was built by Father Tissot, who had charge of the Catholics in this vicinity. This little church



was enlarged by Father James Trobec, pastor at Wabasha, who then had charge of Conception. The first parsonage was built about 1881, in which year the first resident pastor, Rev. Peter Jeram, took charge of the parish. He served until the following year and was succeeded by Rev. Benedict Beinhart, who remained until the spring of 1883. The next pastor, Rev. P. B. Murray, served from 1883 to the fall of 1887, and was succeeded by Rev. E. Stack, who remained in charge from 1887 to the spring of 1899. After him came Rev. Father Hartlieb, 1899 to 1900, and then Rev. A. Aufenholk, 1900 to 1901. Rev. W. E. F. Griffin was the pastor from 1901 to 1904. Father Griffin built the present church, a large brick structure, in 1903. Rev. Father Hartlieb was pastor from 1904 to 1905, being succeeded in the fall of the latter year by Rev. J. C. Pudenz, who served until 1911. Rev. Joseph Zahner served from 1911 until his death in February, 1919. It was he who built the new house in 1918. After Father Zahner's death the parish was supplied from St. Mary's College until the winter of 1920, when the present pastor, Rev. B. A. Kramer, was appointed. The cemetery, donated by Mr. T. Ryan, is called St. Peter and Paul's. Since 1903 the pastors at Conception have also served St. Joseph's parish at Theilman.

The first town meeting in Highland was held May 13, 1858, at the residence of I. Smith, in the southeast portion of the township, near where the Smithfield postoffice was that year located. W. L. Cleaveland presided over the meeting and was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, of which C. G. Dawley and R. M. Doane were also chosen members. The other officers elected at this meeting were as follows: J. R. Cleaveland, clerk; M. Baldwin, overseer of poor; Volney Crandall, assessor; James Felton and A. C. Smith, justices of the peace; George Begg and Oliver Nelson, constables; and George Begg, collector. The township expenses for that year were, all told, fifty dollars.

In 1858 the first road in the township was laid out and worked; the same being the road that connects Appel's (then Watkins') Mill with Canfield Springs. It is now well provided with suitable highways leading out in all directions; many of them following the course of ravines.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### THEILMAN, WEST ALBANY AND GLASGOW.

#### WEST ALBANY TOWNSHIP.

West Albany Township occupies Congressional Township 110, Range 12. It consists of fine rolling prairie, considerably broken in the southern part by eroded valleys and gorges. The streams all lie at a depth of from one to two hundred feet below the surrounding country, affording perfect drainage, and swamps are entirely unknown. Through sections 34, 27, 26, 25 and 36 in the southeastern part, winds the picturesque Zumbro, with its limestone cliffs, wooded banks and fertile bottoms, receiving the united waters of several smaller streams, which take their rise in the central, western and southern parts. These deep valleys or canons, which are the result of ages of erosion, appear to have been at one time considerably deeper than at present. The rock strata, which consist of Potsdam limestone, lie at an undiscovered depth below the streams, overlaid by a deposit of sand, clay and loam, which is rapidly increasing, and which indicates a long continued reversal of the process of erosion. The drift, which on the prairies overlies the rock to a depth of from five to fifty feet, consists of clay, topped by a layer of rich clay loam, which in pioneer days nourished a thick growth of buffalo grass and grubs, now supplanted by the products of intelligent industry.

The first settler was Samuel Brink, who located on the southwest quarter of section 21, and built a two-story log hotel, in which to accommodate the traffic from Reed's Landing to Oronoco. A few weeks later John McCollom settled on section 28. He was accompanied by Dr. Spafford. Mrs. McCollom died soon after their arrival. In the summer of 1855 came also Abram Lyons, followed in the early fall by Leroy B., Eugene B., and Cornelius A. McCollom. These settlements were all made in the valley near the future site of the village of West Albany, the first comers being attracted by the supposed superior fertility of the soil and the advantages of water and wood not found on the prairie. In the spring of 1852 Abram Lyons married Jane McCollom; this first marriage of the township was blessed by the appearance of a daughter the following spring, Laura Ann Lyons, who was the first child born in West Albany.

The summer of 1856 brought several new comers among whom were: Wm. Wright, of England; Frederick Jacobs, of Hanover; Andrew Hook, of Baden; Charles Wise, of Baden; John M. Welsh, of Ireland, and Patrick Cronan, of Ireland. This summer saw the destruction of Brink's tavern by fire. At the time of its burning it was occupied by Frederick Jacobs. For some time afterward the settlement was designated as "the Burnt Tavern."

In the spring of 1857, Lawrence Tracy, of Irish nativity, who had previously settled in what is now Oakwood, moved to West Albany. In the same year came Sylvester and William Applegarth, of Canada; Henry Schmuser, of Holstein; Wm. Funk, and some others.

In 1858 (some say as early as 1855) began the establishment of the "Scotch Settlement," in the northeastern part of the township. Among the first arrivals from Scotland were William Duffus, George and William Wilson, and Henry Glashan and wife. For some time Mrs. Glashan was the only white woman in the settlement; the Glashan children were all born here. William Wilson came about a year later than his brother George; he was accompanied by his wife. George and William Perry were also early arrivals. George subsequently fought



in the Civil War and died in the service. Dan, John and James Monroe, all heads of families, came also from Scotland to this place. Almost the only exceptions to Scotch nationality were the Fick and Danckwardt families who were German. Soon after came the Gray families—Alexander and James—and the Miller family, several of whom were grown men with wives and children. Other early Scotch immigrants were Charles Forest, Alexander Thoirs, William Sterling, David Munro, William Corry, and the Chalmers, Innes, Asher, Lowe, and George Phillips families. The Thaw family came twelve years later. The first blacksmith was Peter Goihl, who conducted a shop for a number of years and also worked a farm. When he arrived, he had nothing but a few small tools in a handkerchief. He is still living, being a resident of Lake City. Preaching was begun early by the Rev. Mr. Collins, of the United Presbyterian church, the services being held in a log schoolhouse. He remained for a year, his successors being Revs. Whitley, Smith, Tate and James Rogers. A frame church was built in 1884 in section 3, and is still standing. About 1880 a number of the young people removed to Lyon County, where they started another Scotch settlement, and owing to removals and deaths, the only family of Scotch origin in the West Albany settlement is that of John Duffus.

West Albany Creek offers the advantage of good water-power to industries of this kind, and its hurrying course was first checked by a water-wheel in 1857, when the McColloms' sawmill was put in operation. As before mentioned, the sawmill built by the McCollums was purchased in 1874 by Hiram Fellows and moved farther down the stream. In 1877 it was purchased by the Brandt brothers, who removed the machinery and erected a flouring-mill. In 1859 Sylvester Applegarth built a gristmill with two run of buhrs. Three or four years after he sold it to Patrick McNamee, and after passing through different hands and experiencing several changes, it was destroyed by fire. In 1867 Wm. Applegarth built a feedmill. It was soon sold, and in 1877 it passed into the hands of its present owner, John J. Hoffman.

Like the early pioneers of every part of the country the first settlers of West Albany saw their share of hardship and privation, and here as elsewhere bitter cups were often sweetened and brooding clouds lighted by the merry meetings which varied a life of toil, and a generous spirit of equality and neighborly kindness, over the departure of which many an old settler will be seen to shake his head regretfully. Money was scarce, and settlers were sometimes in actual want of food or reduced to a diet of johnnycake or potatoes. The abundance of game was often a great advantage, and the numerous flocks of prairie chicken and grouse, and the occasional deer that haunted the valleys, frequently increased an otherwise slim bill of fare. Sometimes the men would devote a day to ball or "shinny," and braking and hauling bees were quite common, often being a necessity, as teams were rather scarce. In the winter, sleigh-rides, singing-schools, lyceums, spelling-schools and donations varied the monotony and will always be remembered with pleasure by the participants.

An Indian trail from Wabasha to Blue Earth passed through this township, over which the Indians often passed, frequently stopping along West Albany creek to fish for the brook-trout that haunted its deeps. Winter sometimes saw them camped in the valleys, generally along the Zumbro, and though they often visited the settlers, to beg or bring in a little game, they gave no serious annoyance. Lawrence Tracy's cabin, which then consisted of one room, was a favorite resort, and on cold winter evenings they would invade this warm retreat, lay around on the floor, in the way, and play cards, sometimes until midnight. In 1862 the settlers were badly frightened by the rumor that the hostile Indians from the north were coming, and many wakeful nights were passed on this account. Some left temporarily, some would go to neighbors' houses to spend the night, and some talk of fortifying a retreat was indulged in, but the Indians never came and no scalps were lost.



The first term of school in this township was probably taught by Augustus Applegarth, in the summer of 1858, in a building owned by William Haines.

The Gopher Prairie postoffice was established about 1860, on section 2, with Benjamin Dodge as postmaster. This became a favorite place of resort for the neighbors to gather in, tell stories, discuss politics, or read the newspapers of which Dodge always had a plentiful supply. In the course of two or three years it was moved to the house of Wm. Wilson and shortly after to the town of Lake.

West Albany Lodge, No. 120, I.O.G.T., was an important organization in the early days. It was organized July 26, 1875, by F. C. Stow, G.W., secretary of I.O.G.T., with forty-one charter members. The first officers were: J. P. Owens, L.D.; A. G. Sulton, P.W.C.T.; John Munro, W.C.T.; Jennie Ritchie, W.V.T.; John Brown, secretary. Meetings were held regularly in the school-house of district No. 26; then in Glasgow township. The organization was disbanded April, 1878.

In 1878 the Minnesota Midland railway was completed, following the course of the Zumbro river through the southeastern part of the township. Before the building of the road, agents of the company went among the farmers and got a majority of the voters to sign a petition for the road agreeing to aid the company to the extent of five thousand dollars in case the road was completed. This afterward created considerable dissatisfaction in the township, and when the road was completed they declined to grant the bonus. The case was carried to the supreme court where the law under which the petition was gotten up was declared unconstitutional, thus relieving the township of their obligation to pay the amount.

May 11, 1858, the township was organized as West Albany, though to whom the credit of naming the town is due, could not be ascertained. The election was held at William Applegarth's, resulting as follows: E. B. McCollom, chairman of board; William Applegarth, clerk; Leroy McCollom, justice of the peace; and Cornelius McCollom, constable.

West Albany was for several years an important hamlet on the road from Read's Landing to Oronoco and Mazeppa. In the spring of 1857 the village was platted by Leroy B., Eugene B. and Cornelius A. McCollom, who bought the property of George H. Faribault and platted the west half of the northeast quarter of section 28.

William Applegarth built a store, which he stocked with a small supply of general merchandise, and the proprietors erected a sawmill. Upon the petition of the McColloms a postoffice was established, being located at Applegarth's store, with E. B. McCollom, postmaster. The store was sold, about 1866, to R. Barry, who carried on the business until within two or three years, and was postmaster until 1878, when the office passed into the hands of Thomas Smith. The mill was run a few years, when it was abandoned, and in 1874 it was sold to Hiram Fellows, who removed it to the site where Brandt's flouring-mill was afterward located. In the same spring of 1857 John McCollom platted the town of Union on the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27, but agriculture was the only business ever carried on within its limits.

Albany Village was laid out in the spring of 1859 by Sylvester Applegarth, on section 29, about a half-mile west of West Albany, started two years before. The plat was recorded May 3, 1859, and the place soon became the metropolis of the township. Richard Dawson erected a hotel, Sylvester Applegarth a grist-mill, S. McIntyre a store and saloon, and Jacob Fister a blacksmith-shop. About this time a small land office was run by E. Foster, who did business of various kinds for the settlers, but upon his election as auditor he left this part of the county. July 4, 1861, the blacksmith-shop was burned. Its destruction was the result of a quarrel about the possession of an anvil with which the inhabitants intended to demonstrate their patriotism. The same year saw the burning of the hotel. Both were soon rebuilt. In 1862 the hotel passed into the hands of Frank Ryan, who ran it as a hotel and saloon for a few years. This place be-



came a favorite resort, and dances were often held under its roof, with their attendant mirth and uproar.

In the early days of the West Albany settlement the Catholics were favored with occasional visitations by Father Tissot of Wabasha. He repeated his visits until 1866, when he was succeeded by Father Trobec, also from Wabasha. In 1869 Father Herman divided his time between this charge and Lake City, and was followed by Father Quinn. In the fall of 1879 Father Jacobs took charge of the church, being the first resident priest, and remaining four years. In the spring of 1883 Father Boland began his administration.

About 1863 the congregation purchased 60 acres of land near the village of West Albany, and two years later they bought 20 additional acres, with Frank Ryan's hotel, which they used for a church several years. The new church was begun under the administration of Father Herman, and completed in 1884. A commodious parsonage was begun in 1881.

**Lakey Village** was originally called Tracy in honor of Lawrence Tracy. The station continued to be called Tracy for some time, but as there was another town of Tracy in the state, the postoffice was called Lakey, from one of the officials of the railroad. The Mazeppa Mill Company started buying grain here in 1878.

In the summer of 1879 P. J. McGinn built a two-story frame building and put in a stock of general merchandise. In the spring of 1863 he sold to P. J. Fox, who continues the business. In 1880 the postoffice was moved from West Albany to Tracy, McGinn assuming the duties of postmaster.

The Baptist Church was important for several years. The majority of the members of the organization were residents of West Albany; but meetings were for many years held in the schoolhouse of district 26, which, until 1878, was located in Glasgow Township. At that time a new schoolhouse was erected in West Albany, where services were afterward held. The first Baptist preacher who ministered to this community was Benjamin Wharton, a native of Virginia, and at that time a resident of Wabasha. This was in 1858. His first services were held in the log house of John Owens of this township, and until the erection of the schoolhouse of district No. 26, in 1861 or 1862, he held meetings at intervals of two or three weeks, here and at the residences of William Corry and B. B. Fetzer. July 14, 1861, he organized the church at the log schoolhouse. Eight were enrolled as members, viz: Isaac Corry, William Corry and wife, Charles Forest, John Owens and wife, by letter from the Baptist church of Wabasha; B. B. Fetzer and Martha Fetzer, from Clarion county, Pennsylvania. The first officers chosen were B. B. Fetzer and Isaac Corry, deacons. Wharton was succeeded by William Sturgeon, who preached about one year, when Wharton returned, remaining several years. He was followed by Rev. Cummings, and one year later by Levi Ross, under whose charge the church saw its season of greatest prosperity, the membership reaching thirty-three. After a ministratiion of two and a half years he was succeeded by T. F. Babcock, who remained but a short time, and was the last to visit the church. About this time the ranks were greatly thinned by emigration westward; so much so that services were discontinued. In 1859 a sabbath school was organized, and was kept up until the breaking up of the church.

**United Presbyterian.**—At the request of a few persons, residents of West Albany township, they were visited in September, 1860, by Rev. James McCartney, who preached at the house of William Sterling on the evening of September 13, 1860, and in schoolhouse No. 21 on the 14th. Though preaching was earnestly desired, other engagements prevented him from returning until January, 1861. From this time until July he preached here half the time. The Caledonia congregation of the United Presbyterian church was organized March 19, 1861, with nine members. Seven of these were by letter, from Yorkville, Wisconsin—William Wilson, Jeanette Wilson, Henry Glashen, Jane Glashen, William Sterling, Lucretia Sterling and George Perry; and two joined



on profession—William Perry and Martha Perry. In the summer of 1861, Rev. J. K. Black visited them a few times, and July, 1862, A. B. Coleman was sent by the general assembly and preached half the time for a year. He was followed by H. McHatton, James P. Rait, James M. Wallace, J. Tate, James Rogers, and others. July, 1882, A. Y. Houston took charge.

**Roman Catholic Church.**—In the early days of the settlement the Catholics were favored with occasional visitations by Father Tissot, of Wabasha. He repeated his visits until 1866, when he was succeeded by Father Trobec, also from Wabasha. In 1869 Father Herman divided his time between this charge and Lake City, and was followed by Father Quinn. In the fall of 1879 Father Jacobs took charge of the church, being the first resident priest, and remaining four years. In the spring of 1883 Father Boland began his ministration. About 1863 the congregation purchased sixty acres of land near the village of West Albany, and two years later they bought twenty additional acres, with Frank Ryan's hotel, which they used for a church several years. The new church was begun during the ministration of Father Herman, and completed in 1884. A commodious parsonage was begun in 1881.

**German Methodist.**—The exact date of the first preaching was not ascertained, though it was probably in 1861, by Rev. Grechtenmeyer at C. Fuhrman's house. The following are the names of ministers who followed him: Wm. Schreiner, Philip Funk, August Lamprecht, Adam Willer, Frederick Hermsmeyer, Frederick Hogrefe, Louis Thoele, Henry Schnitker, and Frederick Hermsmeyer, of Wabasha. A frame church was built in 1866.

**Lutheran.**—About 1863 Prof. Moldenke, of Milwaukee, made this section a visit and preached at the house of Henry Schmuser, on section 16. Through his influence the few adherents to the church in this neighborhood were visited in 1864 by William Vomhof, of Olmstead county. During the fall of that year he organized a church of six members, as follows: John Dankwart, Henry Schmuser and wife, John Haase, Fritz Lange, Henry Lange and John Schmidt. Early ministers were: F. Seifert, A. Hoffman, M. Stulpnagel, P. Rubreih, and P. Bechtel. A church, a neat frame, was erected in 1868. At the same time a parsonage was erected.

### GLASGOW TOWNSHIP.

Glasgow Township occupies Congressional Township 110, Range 11. It is bounded on the north by Pepin and a small portion of Wabasha, on the east by Wabasha and Greenfield, on the south by Highland, and on the west by West Albany. The physical features of this township are very striking. The Zumbro river enters the township through section 31 and runs a very roundabout way in crossing the township, passing through or touching each of the following sections: 30, 29, 20, 21, 28, 27, 22, 15, 14, 11, 12, and leaves the township through section 13. Many small streams both from the north and from the south flow into this river, the most important of which is Trout Creek from the northwest. All along the river the country is very broken, but is interspersed with beautiful valleys all along the little streams. For a greater part the Zumbro is skirted on either side with heavy forests of timber. In most of the hills is to be found plenty of limestone of an excellent quality, which is used to a very large extent for building foundations for houses and barns. The soil of the valleys is very fertile, consisting of a blackish loam underlaid with a clay subsoil.

Wm. McCracken, in 1855, a native of Scotland, was the first to break the sod in the township of Glasgow. Very soon after McCracken came to the township Charles Foreman, Hugh McGowen, Hugh and Robert Cochrane, Fred Bernhart, Wm. Stowman, Henry Smith, and several others, laid personal claim to a portion of this township. The next year this number was increased by John and Wm. Cochrane, Hugh McGinnis, the Ring brothers, Henry Ash, J. B. Roone, and others. Soon after establishing themselves in their new home, in the fall



of 1855, Mr. McGowen's wife gave birth to the first white child born in the township. But the life of this child born in the wilderness was of but short duration, it and its mother both dying in a short time after the child's birth. They both were laid to rest within the bosom of mother earth in the same grave. They were the first to die in this township. The first sermon ever preached within the boundaries was preached in the house of Robert Cochrane, in the spring of 1858, by the Rev. B. F. Wharton, a Baptist minister.

For many years the people of Glasgow township were exclusively occupied in agricultural pursuits until 1861, when Robert Cochrane and A. T. Lansing put in operation a sawmill on Trout brook, and in 1864 Herman Wing concluded to try his fortune among the people by setting up a blacksmith shop. The first postoffice in the township was at the house of Boyd Fetzner, and he was the first postmaster.

Near the center of the town, and lying along the banks of Trout brook, is a field of some fifteen acres, once known as "Indian field." The aborigines used a portion of this field for burying their dead, and the remainder was planted to corn by the squaws. It was rudely inclosed by a brush fence, portions of which were long to be seen. Other evidences of Indian occupancy remained for several decades after the settlement by the whites.

The town was organized May 11, 1858, the first chairman of supervisors was Thomas Matter, and the first town clerk was John B. Roome. The town is named from Glasgow, Scotland.

The German Methodist Church in section 5, Glasgow Township was built in 1869. The first pastor of the church was Rev. Mr. Lampbrecht.

**Dumfries** is a trading point on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, situated in Section 10, Glasgow Township. A postoffice was formerly located here, but has been discontinued, and Wabasha is now the postoffice and banking point. There are two elevators, a general store and other business enterprises.

**McCracken** is a station on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, in section 20, Glasgow Township, three miles east of Theilman, which is the banking point and postoffice.

**Theilman** in the southwestern part of Glasgow Township, situated on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. It has Catholic and German Lutheran churches, a bank, a hotel, a creamery, two elevators and a feed mill, also a blacksmith shop and several stores. It is a convenient trading point for the surrounding territory and considerable business is done.

Theilman, formerly called Theilmanton, was named in honor of Christian Theilman, through whose influence the station was established, and by whom the town was platted in 1877. In January, 1878, Peter Hall completed and occupied a commodious two-story frame, putting in a stock of general merchandise. He was the first to locate on the site of the town. In the spring of the same year he was followed by Nicholas Reil, who erected a good frame building. During the same season William Morris built a blacksmith shop, and Henry Sommerhelder a wagon shop. In the fall two saloons were started by William Colegraff and Nils P. Christianson respectively. The latter afterward sold to John Will. Upon the petition of Peter Hall a postoffice was established, December, 1878, with the petitioner as postmaster. During 1878 a commodious grain-house was erected by Christian Theilman, who then began buying grain.

The Theilman State Bank was incorporated June 1, 1911, with a capital stock of \$10,000, and opened its doors for business July 17, 1911, with the following officers: Theo. Hampe (president), Henry Theilman (vice-president), N. E. Bricher (cashier), M. Kinsella, L. Whitten, of Wabasha; J. D. Bricher and John A. Frese, of Kellogg; and William Dankwart, of Lake City. A brick bank building was erected and equipped in accordance with modern plans, and the institution has had a healthy growth. The deposits at the end of the first year were \$58,000, while the bank's last statement shows deposits of \$321,000, with a surplus of \$11,500. The same officers are still serving.



St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Theilman is a beautiful brick structure, built in 1903 under the direction of Rev. W. E. F. Griffin. The parish is attended from Conception. As a consequence the pastors at Conception from the year 1903 until now, were and are the pastors of Theilman.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

### MINNEISKA AND WEAVER.

Minneiska Township is situated in the southeastern part of Wabasha County, on the Mississippi River. It occupies fractional township 109, range 109. On the north is a portion of Greenfield Township, on the west is Watopa Township, on the south is Mount Vernon Township in Winona County, and across the Mississippi River to the eastward is Buffalo County, Wisconsin. It is crossed by one railroad, the River Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, with stations in this township at the villages of Minneiska and Weaver.

Much of the township lies in the flood plain of the Mississippi, and the bottoms of the Zumbro and its tributaries and estuaries. The northern part is almost all a sandy prairie, broken to the eastward in sloughs and lagoons, furnishing an ideal region of numberless wild fowl. In the south and southwest there are bluffs, ridges and broken land along the Whitewater.

The Whitewater River mouths at Minneiska. In this township is also what was until recently the main mouth of the Zumbro, and also several courses of that broken river. The Zumbro and the Whitewater are connected with a small stream of water about a mile back from the Mississippi, and in high water the waters of the Mississippi back into the Zumbro, causing the waters of the Zumbro to flow into the Whitewater, and thus many of the early investigators found the two rivers mouthing together. At the present time, much of the water of the Zumbro discharges into the Mississippi, opposite a point a short distance below Alma, a dredged waterway having been established from Kellogg.

The first settlement within the limits of what is now known as the town of Minneiska was made as early as 1851, Michael Agnes coming up from St. Louis in August of that year, and building a shanty on the southeast corner, on the river side. Louis Krutely followed the same summer, settling near Agnes. During the same year Charles R. Read, of Read's Landing, purchased a claim some four miles further up the river. These men only built shanties to shelter themselves while cutting wood for the steamboats that plied up and down the river, and broke no ground for cultivation during their first year. Their mainstay for subsistence were the rod and the rifle, and very often they had nothing but fish and fowl, and considered themselves fortunate if they could occasionally trade their game for some flour and other necessities with the stewards of the steamers. The total sale of their wood during the summer did not buy enough food to supply them during the winter, and they had a hard time to pull through until the following spring. Steamboats were not as plenty on the rivers in those days as now, and the advent of a steamer passing at intervals of weeks was a godsend to these hardy men. They used to climb a tree on the island opposite to where now is built the pretty village of Minneiska, commanding a view of the river up and down for several miles, to sight a coming boat, and it was with feelings of anxiety, as their supplies would run low, that they would watch for the first sign of smoke or the pant-pant of the steamer.

In 1852, B. C. Baldwin, Abner Tibbetts, B. H. Reppe and Joseph Schurb all took claims on the river bank. In 1853 John Cook and Albert Pomeroy were among the arrivals.

Much of the early settlement centered about West Newton Village established in 1853, and Minneiska Village established in 1854.

As early as the year 1854 the first birth occurred in the town. This was a daughter of Jacob Schurb, christened Mary, born in the month of January.



The first marriage was that of Peter Schenk to Mary Leyes. The ceremony took place on July 16, 1856. The first death was that of the wife of John Meyer, which took place in January, 1855. Religious services were held here as early as 1856 by Elder Mallinson. The first school was taught by Mary Adams, in the summer of 1858, in a building owned by C. Anderson. No regular school building was erected until the year 1866.

The town was organized May 11, 1858. The official record of the first meeting, so far as is known, has not been preserved. However, A. Z. Putnam was the first chairman, and as such sat on the county board that year.

The second annual meeting was held at the place of S. C. Brown, April 5, 1859. The following officers were elected: A. Z. Putnam, chairman of supervisors; G. E. Kaeding and James M. Douglass, supervisors; Linus Bascom, town clerk; Linus Bascom, assessor; Aaron Fox, collector; Peter Wurstlein, overseer of poor.

The township name is of Dakota Indian origin, "minne" meaning water, and "ska," white. The river which has its mouth near here was called by the Indians Minneiska, and is now known as the Whitewater.

West Newton village was platted in 1853 by Charles R. Read, B. C. Baldwin, Abner Tibbetts and B. H. Reppe, taking its designation from a steamboat wrecked nearby that summer, leaving its pilot house, with its vividly printed name, about the water line. The plat was an elaborate one, showing magnificent streets and boulevards, with sites for churches, hotels, business houses and residences, and reservations for parks, public buildings and the like. Lots were disposed of through New York and Chicago agents. Purchasers, however, found here in place of an improved village site, only a natural landing, a wrecked steamboat, and a few scattered cabins.

In 1853 Charles R. Read built a store and hotel, and a postoffice was established. In 1854, B. H. Reppe built a store. But the river soon began to wash the land away, the embryo village died, and the site is now almost covered with water.

### MINNEISKA VILLAGE.

Minneiska Village was platted in 1854, by the two first settlers, Michael Agnes and Louis Krutely. In the same year that the town site was laid out Dr. Geo. F. Childs and a few others located here. Little improvement was made from this time until the fall of 1856, when Pliny Putnam built a hotel. S. A. Houck commenced mercantile operations the same season, and H. B. Slater opened a store in 1856. The first blacksmith shop was built and put in operation by Albert Pomeroy, but he had not remained in the business long when he sold out to Peter Peterrein. The first warehouse was built by Dr. Childs in 1856, and was occupied by Timmerman & Swart in 1857. In 1856 a steam-sawmill was erected by the firm of Biglow & Son, which was continued in operation about four years, when the business was closed up and the machinery removed to Chippewa. In 1861, Bentley & Yale built a large grain warehouse.

The first school taught in Minneiska was in the summer of 1858, by a Miss Adams, but no schoolhouse was erected there until 1866. The Roman Catholics built a fine church there in 1867, and the Lutherans built one in 1871. The Methodists, also, have a small house of worship.

The older residents still tell of the great fire of January 6, 1884. The fire was discovered by Nick Rouck, a merchant, between his store on Main street, known as the Agnes building, and the large elevator of Brooks Bros., the belief being that it originated in the former building, which, besides being occupied as a store and dwelling by Nick Rouck, was also occupied as a dwelling by the Bowman and Agnes families. The night was clear and extremely cold, the thermometer registered 30 degrees below zero, with a light wind blowing from the bluffs, and both the Agnes building and the large elevator were soon enveloped; the flames then crossed the street, and, despite every effort by the people,



caught on the large three and a half story hotel, owned by Joseph E. Becker, of St. Charles, and managed by John W. Short, and this structure was soon reduced to ashes. Two other buildings, one a warehouse, owned by Brooks Bros., lying northeast of their elevator, and the other an icehouse, lying north of that, were also razed to the ground. Twenty-five thousand bushels of grain were destroyed in the elevator, besides all the machinery. Dr. D. F. Brooks, who, in partnership with Dr. Jas. B. Cole, had an office in the elevator building, lost a medical library, while Dr. Cole lost all his surgical instruments.

The village is picturesquely situated on the Mississippi river bank, parallel to which the main street—the only one of any consequence—extends for over a mile. On this street, which is somewhat elevated above the bank, are a number of stores, modern as to stock and equipment, which draw a good trade from the surrounding country. Located on the River Branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway are an elevator and lumber yard, the former representing the Farmers' co-operative movement, while the latter is under private ownership. Both are doing a thriving business. The Farmers' State Bank is a sound financial institution which is rapidly gaining strength, and there is a local telephone exchange which well serves the village and surrounding districts. In a sharp bend of the road, at the lower end of the business part of the village, is the Grand View Hotel, which, during the summer months enjoys a good patronage from transient pleasure seekers, attracted by the excellent fishing facilities. Many of the houses at the upper end of the village are located on the side of a steep bluff, commanding a beautiful view of the river, and are reached by climbing long flights of steps leading up from the road. Three churches—Catholic, Methodist and Lutheran—furnish opportunities for religious worship for people of different creeds, and include in their combined congregations most of the people of the village. Fishing is an industry pursued not only for pleasure, but also as a matter of business, and large catches are often made. Minneiska has one of the finest natural landing places on the upper Mississippi, and should the proposed plans for the revival of river traffic materialize, the village may again witness the lively and bustling scenes attendant upon the arrival and departure of steamers.

The Farmers' State Bank of Minneiska was organized November 30, 1917, with O. J. Linstrum, president; E. F. Fitzgerald, vice-president, and A. E. Laufenburger, cashier. The bank started with a capital of \$10,000, which has since remained the same, and a surplus of \$2,000, which has been increased to \$5,000. A recent statement showed deposits of \$200,000, and undivided profits of \$671 after paying a 10 per cent dividend and increasing the surplus to \$5,000. The officers are the same as at the beginning, while the directors are C. F. Mogren, John Peshon, Bert Gage, E. F. Fitzgerald, August Nelson, O. J. Linstrum and Julius Zimmerman. The institution does a general banking business, handling insurance and farm loans.

**The Catholic Church at Minneiska.**—The first Catholic settlers locating in what we now call Minneiska (formerly known as Whitewater) were Michael Agnes and Louis Krutly, who arrived about 1852. They were single and enterprising young men. The first Catholic family coming here was that of Joseph Schurb, whose wife in maidenhood was Elizabeth Traut. They took a homestead about a mile west of the village incorporation. To this couple was born in 1854 the first white child in the neighborhood, Mary Schurb. Baptism was deferred for some years on account of not seeing a Catholic priest. In 1857 the first priest came, administered baptism to about seven children, and at the same time held a four days' mission, to preach to the lonesome and forlorn Catholic people to be steadfast in their faith, to look with confidence to the Divine Providence, who would send in due time a priest at intervals to minister to them the sacraments and instruct them in the principles of their religion. The good priests were Father Lette and Father Van.



In October, 1858, Father Tissot was sent by Bishop Cretin of St. Paul, as first resident priest at Wabasha, and to take care of the adjacent country, which included Minneiska. He came to Minneiska about Easter time in 1859. Like the priests who had previously visited this place, Father Tissot was obliged to celebrate Mass in private houses, including those of Michael Agnes, John Salintini, Peter Werstlein and Anton Heaser, the latter residing in Trout Valley. These services kept the few Catholic families together and preserved the seed of Catholicity which was destined in after years to sprout so profusely.

Even the change of pastors in 1866 to Father Trobec, did not in the beginning bring a change of divine worship. The Catholic community at this time numbered about eighteen families—those of Michael Agnes, Joseph Schurb, Nicholas Bartholomae, Peter Schank, Joseph Heaser, Michael Heaser, Nicholas Hidershide, Anton Heaser, John Peter Nepper, Nicholas Becker, Henry Maus, Henry Nepper, Peter Werstlein, Michael Ponsle, Valentine and Charles Jacob Jackson, Peter Peshon, Nicholas Walch and Matt. Runk. Poor as they were, but thrifty, they listened to the advice of good Father Trobec to build a little church, and on June 18, 1867, a building committee was appointed, consisting of Michael Agnes (president), Peter Schank (secretary) and Joseph Schurb (treasurer). Michael Agnes donated two lots towards the new church, thereby settling its location. The burden of expense was carried by the members through assessment, the total amount being about \$1,100. The dimensions of that frame structure were: 30 feet wide, 40 feet long, and 14 feet high, without a sanctuary or a bellfry. The altar and vestments came from Wabasha, Father Trobec himself building the altar. This church answered the purpose for 44 years and kept the struggling little flock together.

On June 18, 1867, was celebrated the First Communion Day in the house of Mr. Agnes. The happy communicants were Joseph Schurb, Mary Hidershide, Mary Heaser, Anton Sery and Mary Schurb. It is gratifying to think of the noble-minded men and thoroughly Catholic mothers who guided the destiny of our parish from the beginning. Every word spoken by Father Trobec seemed to have been a seed for good and found a ready echo in the hearts of his listeners, and even to this day his memory is as vivid as if the good Father had left only yesterday. About the year 1871 the cemetery was bought by the parish and later on deeded over to the diocese. The first Catholic man buried there was the late Jacob Dondlinger, who died July 16, 1870. Since then most of our old Catholic pioneers have found a quiet resting-place under the shade of the iron cross which was erected in the year 1906.

In 1887 Father Trobec was removed to St. Paul and Father Wurst took charge of Wabasha and this place. On account of the multifarious duties incumbent on Father Wurst, things under his guidance went about the same as under Father Trobec's regime. Services were kept about twice a month, on a week day and on a Sunday, as Wabasha had off and on an assistant. We may honorably mention the Fathers Geran, Jacob, Hechenberger, O'Connel, Lager and Holper. About 1890 the sanctuary was built to the church and the whole church was backplastered at an expense of about \$480.

December, 1895, brought one of the greatest changes into the Catholic community of Minneiska by the appointment of the Rev. Francis Xavier Mueller as resident pastor at St. Mary's church. Then Father Mueller arrived at Minneiska and made his first home with the family of Henry Wolf, remaining there until a suitable residence could be procured. The parish soon set to work to find a suitable rectory, the trustees and pastor securing the Brooks residence for \$1,000, and within a short time the residence was furnished and ready for occupancy. Under Father Mueller's direction, more space for worship was provided by the construction of a new floor to the entire church and the enlargement of the gallery to twice its former capacity. On February 10, 1896, Father Mueller also organized the two main societies: St. Joseph's for men, and St. Ann's for ladies, both established for the spiritual good of his



flock. He proved a faithful, devoted and hard-working pastor, and it came as a shock to the congregation when, on the first Sunday in October, 1900, he announced that he had to obey his Bishop's call to another field. And mingled with the sad feeling of parting with a beloved pastor came the stunning calamity of the ever memorable day of October 24, 1900, when a terrible fire destroyed over half of Minneiska, also leaving in ashes the priest house, with the trunks already packed for Father Mueller's departure. "With few things I came to Minneiska," said the distressed priest, "but with less earthly property I leave this place." All the records, such as baptismal, matrimonial and death records, were destroyed; the secretary's and treasurer's records were saved, being in the hands of Joseph Schurb, the treasurer.

On account of the general distress, the new German priest, Rev. Casper Koegel, arrived unnoticed, and before the people were aware of his presence he had found a temporary home in the Grand View Hotel, then managed by William and Margareta Fitzgerald, who have since gone to their eternal reward. In 1901 a new rectory was built at a cost of \$1,800. A chapel was attached to the rectory, in which the weekday services and other incidental devotions were held. Also, by permission of the Bishop, the Blessed Sacrament was kept therein and the stations of the cross were canonically erected.

On February 4, 1905, a written appeal was sent to each member of the parish for the purpose of erecting a new church, but for some reason or other, no active steps were immediately taken about it by the pastor. In 1907, on his return from a vacation in Europe, the pastor personally took up the subscriptions for the church from the members of his parish, and within two weeks nearly \$8,000 had been subscribed, for Minneiska was anxious to keep the church within her limits, and Catholics as well as non-Catholics contributed to the cause. Henry Husser generously offered to donate a half acre of his valuable land.

In May, 1908, the building committee was elected, consisting of John Peshon for the village of Minneiska, Anton Tibesar for Mount Vernon, Edward Heaser for the Trout Valley, James Sullivan for White Water Valley, John Malony for Indian Creek, Thomas Sheehan for Sand Prairie, and by virtue of their office, Father Koegel, Henry Wolf and John Riley, being officers of St. Mary's Corporation, also belonged to the building committee. The committee decided upon a full stone foundation with a brick superstructure, the plans and specifications being drawn up by W. H. Stenens of Winona. The church was erected by Oscar Lindstrom of Minneiska, who in 1901 built the rectory, and whose father, John Lindstrom, in 1867, built the first Catholic church of this place. Work was begun in the fall of 1908, the cornerstone laid April 27, 1909, by Rev. Father Schmitz, who was delegated by the Vicar-General, the Bishop being ill, Father Meier of Winona, who preached the German sermon, and Peter Tibesar of Minneiska, a theological student, acting as assistants. The church was subsequently completed and is now one of the ornaments of the village. The high altar was donated by subscriptions from the Oak Ridge people, under the good influence of Frank Maschka (now deceased). One side altar was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Anton Tibesar; the bells were donated by Andrew Kreidemacher. New stations of the cross, and also confessionals, have been installed by various parishioners, the cemetery has been put in first-class condition, a group erected therein, and a handsome fence built around the grounds, the expense of improvements being about \$1,000. Father Koegel has been pastor since 1900. He has been a hard worker, in addition to the church at Minneiska, having built one equally as large at his mission at Elba, Minn., and during his charge the rectory at Minneiska has been built. Both buildings have been cleared of all debt and other improvements are going on.

#### WEAVER VILLAGE.

Weaver village dates from 1871 when it was laid out, the intention being the establishment of an important shipping and trading center on the newly



opened railroad. The first settler in this region was Andrew Olson, who brought his family here in the early fifties. He was followed by George and Christopher Abbott. In 1857 William Weaver secured a farm here, and it is upon a part of his place that the village is platted. When the village was laid out, W. H. Hopkins erected and opened a store and was appointed postmaster. William Weaver erected a large hotel. Warehouses and other business interests followed. In 1872 a schoolhouse was built, and this served not only as a place of secular instruction, but also furnished a meeting place for the Methodist Episcopal and Norwegian Lutheran congregations.

The village is situated on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, in the southwest part of Minneiska Township. It has several good stores, a bank, a hotel, and a creamery, all well managed and prosperous institutions. To the west and somewhat to the north lies an extensive plateau, reached from the village by a road along the southern aspect of the bluff, which becomes steeper and more picturesque as it nears the summit; while about a mile to the north lies the southern edge of Sand Prairie, stretching from the river to about half a mile from the foot of the bluffs, and north into Greenfield Township. Weaver is a convenient market town for much of the surrounding territory, and is the home of a number of retired farmers, in addition to the local business men and railroad workers.

The Weaver State Bank was established in 1916 for the convenience of the farmers and merchants, among whom the stock was distributed. About a year ago it came under more exclusive management. Its president is D. J. Murphy; cashier, C. L. Childe, and assistant cashier, G. P. Todd. The bank has a capital of \$12,000; surplus and profits of \$2,400, and deposits averaging \$37,000.



## CHAPTER XIX.

### GREENFIELD, KELLOGG AND WATOPA.

#### GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP.

**Greenfield Township** is the largest township in Wabasha County, occupying all but sections 4, 5 and 6 of Township 110, Range 10, and all of fractional Township 110, Range 9. It is bounded on the north by Wabasha and the Mississippi, on the east by Glasgow Township, on the south by Watopa and Minneiska Townships, and on the east by the Mississippi River across which lies Buffalo County in Wisconsin. The River Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul nearly bisects the town from north to south. The high lands east of the railroad are cut by the valleys of the Zumbro River and its tributaries, while east of the track lie the low lands in which the waters of the Zumbro mingle with those of the Mississippi in meandering and sluggish waterways, sloughs, swamps and lagoons. From Kellogg to the Mississippi an artificial waterway has been established. A part of the eastern part of the township is occupied by a sand prairie.

South and west of the Zumbro lies a beautiful and fertile bench, about half-way between the level of the stream and that of the prairie at the top of the bluffs. Along this bench winds the beautiful stream known as Cook's Valley Creek. Here settled, in the spring of 1854, on section 30, Messrs. Levi and Aaron Cook, and this gave rise to the name Cook's Valley, by which the locality is now known. Their location was at the mouth of Cook's valley proper, a valley tributary to that of the Zumbro, and running back southward several miles. During the same year Dr. C. C. Stauff, a native of Germany, who had settled at Wabasha in 1853, located a claim near the river on section 19, on this bench. Ephraim Wildes was another settler of 1854, having first located on the northeast quarter of section 34. The next year he moved to section 30 and built the first frame house in the township. Here he died in 1860.

In April, 1854, Isaac Cole, now a resident of Wabasha, located on section 22, on the south bank of the Zumbro. He established a ferry and hotel and was largely patronized, for travel from Wabasha westward naturally followed the valley of the Zumbro. The Indians located by hundreds on the banks of the river were at times exceedingly troublesome, especially when returning noisy and furious from drinking bouts at Wabasha. Brandishing their bowie-knives they threatened to kill and exterminate the whites, from which they were prevented only by the squaws wresting the dangerous weapons from them without ceremony. On one occasion they undertook to carry off Cole's ferry-boat, and in fact did, but were compelled to abandon the enterprise by a posse of men who pursued and overtook them. Nearly every settler in those days kept a tavern, for land-seekers were glad to find a dry place to lie down when overtaken by night, and none were turned away hungry as long as the larder contained bacon and cornmeal. Game furnished a considerable portion of the provision against starvation and frequently furnished a meal with no accompaniment save salt.

Among other pioneers of 1854 may be mentioned G. H. Amerland, H. P. Wilson, John W. Murphy and Michael W. Riley. The next year marked the arrival of Garret A. Cook, a brother of Aaron H. and Levi Cook. Garret Albertson, a local Methodist elder, came this year. His brother, William, at the same time located on section 30. Patrick Holland located a claim on section 29, April 19, 1855. J. H. Wehrenberg, Henry Frye, Henry Graner and George McCaffrey settled in the valley in 1856. Daniel Metzgar located on section 30, in 1857.



The earliest birth among Caucasian residents was that of Frank, son of H. P. Wilson, and occurred June 25, 1855. August 31 of the same year a son was born to Carl and Wilhelmina Stauff, and christened Frank Henry. On November 16, Augustus, a son, was added to the family of Levi Cook. March 28, 1858, witnessed the nuptials of J. Henry Wehrenberg and Anna Frye. Some time during the same year Henry Stewart and Augusta Wildes went to Sand Prairie and were married. The first death was that of William B. T. Piers, whose demise occurred April 6, 1855, at Wabasha, and was the effect of inflammation caused by the bite of a dog inflicted here. E. Madison Wildes had two Indian dogs that were very savage, and Piers, by some means, incurred their displeasure.

A postoffice was located in Cook's Valley in the spring of 1859, and supplied by the Wabasha and Austin stages. Daniel Metzgar was appointed to take charge of it, and after keeping it a little more than three years, turned it over to G. A. Cook.

Most of the early settlers were men of family, and appreciated the need of educational facilities. At a meeting of the citizens held in G. A. Cook's house, November 8, 1857, a school district was organized. John Canfield, a resident of Glasgow Township, was made director, Garret Albertson, treasurer, and G. A. Cook, clerk. Nearly all the citizens of the town were present, and it was decided to raise fifty dollars for school purposes. By mutual contributions of labor, a log building was erected for a schoolhouse, on the site of the present one, in district No. 28, and school opened the same month. G. A. Cook's daughter, Aurora, was employed at a salary of ten dollars per month, and presided over the instruction of fifteen pupils during the winter.

On November 9, 1868, a meeting of citizens was held to arrange for the establishment of a common burial place. A cemetery association was formed, with J. A. Cole, G. A. Cook and Henry Graner as trustees. Two acres of land were purchased from Henry Frye and Henry Graner, and the latter donated one-fourth of an acre. This constitutes Greenfield cemetery, and is located on the south side of the Zumbro, in the center of the south half of section 20.

Several of the pioneers were devout Methodists, and steps were early taken to secure preaching. The earliest religious service was held in the year 1857, at the cabin of Levi Cook, and was conducted by Rev. Crist, a Methodist clergyman. Rev. John L. Dyer was soon after sent here by the conference, and he organized a class. In August, 1859, he was assisted in his labors by Garret Albertson, a local elder residing here. Sunday school here included thirty-five pupils.

In March, 1863, a meeting was held at Cook's Valley schoolhouse to take steps toward building a house of worship. The trustees elected were: Oliver Collier, G. A. Cook, John R. Brown, Ezekiel Collins, Nelson Staples. During the same year foundations were prepared and lumber brought on the ground. In the fall, N. Staples was awarded the contract for the carpenter work at seventy-five dollars, to be completed by March 1, 1864. The latter year saw the completion and occupation of the building, on the south side of the Plain-view road, on section 30, a plain frame structure, 24 by 36 feet in superficial dimensions.

A gang of outlaws led by Henry Rufus Dresser kept the township in an uproar in the early days. It was evidently the aim of this gang to establish here a criminals' retreat, by getting possession of all the land. Consequently they tried to drive out the honest settlers by intimidation and by jumping their claims. They made a business of running off the settlers' oxen and stealing any other portable property available. In 1856, E. Madison Wildes and George Hayes laid claim to adjoining eighties. These claims were jumped by Dresser and his lieutenant, Alex Baird, who built a cabin on the line between the two claims. On a certain Friday Andrew Wildes, a young brother of Madison, with the assistance of another lad, tore down the shanty in the absence of its



usurping occupants. On Saturday night following Hayes started for Wabasha from the residence of Ephraim Wildes, father of the boys above named, and was met by Dresser and Beard, who had just discovered the destruction of their cabin. They told Hayes they would rebuild the shanty if they had to shoot every man in the settlement. These men were known to be desperate characters, and Hayes became frightened and returned to Wildes'. Next morning a posse of citizens was gathered and proceeded to the scene of action, on section 29, to induce the unlawful occupants to leave. When the party approached Dresser was on the roof and his companion inside. The former swore he would shoot the first one who touched a board of the building. Disregarding this threat, Wildes walked up and leaned against the building, whereupon Beard began firing at him with a revolver. Wildes was struck above the right groin by a bullet and sank to the ground. He was carried home by his friends and lingered in agony till the next day. A warrant was issued, by a justice from Wabasha, for their arrest, and Sheriff Hurd attempted to arrest them, but failed. A party from Wabasha met them at Tepeeotah that same night, among whom was A. A. Weston. They arrested and conveyed them to Wabasha, where they were examined, and afterward conveyed to Stillwater, but, soon making their escape from there, they returned and boldly made their appearance at Wabasha. Beard was again arrested and confined, but escaped again and left the country. J. J. Stone was deputy sheriff at this time, and in attempting to arrest Dresser was shot at by Dresser's wife through the door. On February 15, Mr. Weston was shot through the window of his house and died from the effect of the wound about three years after. Dresser was again arrested, but finally made his escape and left the country.

The same gang was also guilty of a death at Tepeeotah in 1856. Wishing to frighten away Dr. Timothy Enright, they set out one night for his shanty, swearing that, if they could not find him, they would shoot any man found on the premises. An inoffensive man named Polhemus chanced to be staying there that night, in the absence of its owner, and received a bullet in his head. Death was instantaneous.

Interesting stories are told of various early characters. Edward Deland lost two successive crops of small grain on the Zumbro bottoms by flood. In 1859 he planted forty acres to corn, and on the first of July it was large and looking very fine. He made the remark that morning to a passing neighbor, that he thought he had "got ahead of God Almighty this year by planting his whole farm to corn," which was now beyond damage by high water. In the morning of July 3, a Wabasha party visited him and purchased his farm, the deed to be made and money turned over that afternoon at Wabasha. While cultivating corn during the forenoon, Deland heard the roar of the approaching flood, and looked up to see a great wall of water rolling toward him. He was barely able to reach his stable and mount to its top in time to escape being swept away. The house, fortunately, was beyond the reach of the rushing waters. Finding he could not circumvent the Lord, he set about "getting ahead" of his purchaser before news of the flood reached him. Taking his wife in a skiff, he reached terra firma by rowing a fourth of a mile. They reached Wabasha, signed the deed, received the money, and returned home well satisfied with the day's events on the whole.

It is said that an unknown man died of cholera in the town immediately after coming off a Mississippi steamer in the spring of 1855. He was in search of land, and came out from Wabasha with a settler. He was stricken the same evening with the dread malady, and succumbed to it within a few hours. Two others died about the same time, from the same cause, in the town of Glasgow, just outside this town, and were buried here.

In 1866 a man was found one morning on the western border of the town, with his head hanging out of his buggy, life being extinct. It was ascertained that he was a book agent, and had displayed a sum of money on the morning



of the day previous at Wabasha. It was supposed that he had been followed during the day by some covetous person, and killed under cover of darkness for his money. No clue to the murder was ever found, and the name of the murdered man is unknown.

The territorial election for this section was held in the spring of 1856, at the house of Ephraim Wildes. The judges appointed to conduct this election were William Albertson, Henry Dresser and Aaron Cook. The latter was made clerk. At this election Garret Albertson was chosen justice of the peace. On the organization of the town, May 11, 1858, F. J. Collier was chosen chairman of supervisors, and Seth C. Tennis town clerk.

Tepeeotah was the name of a village founded during the fall of 1856 by the Hon. Thomas H. Ford, ex-governor of Ohio, and Judge Casey, of Pennsylvania, who were then visiting this region. Attracted by the apparent advantages of a claim owned by Dr. Timothy Enright, they purchased it at once and laid out upon it a village site, expecting the place to develop into a commercial city. It covered a quarter section, and occupied a beautiful location on an island in the delta of the Zumbro, four miles southeast of Wabasha. The bluffs of the Mississippi are about four miles back of this point, and the surrounding country was level. The island for many years had been the favorite camping place of Wapashaw's band, and the proprietors of the village named it Tepeeotah, from the Indian words, "tepee," meaning house, and "otah," many. They fully expected to see it attain greater dimensions than Wabasha, which was then improving rapidly. In 1857 Theodore Adams became a partner in the townsite, the company being known as Ford, Casey & Adams. In the same year a three-story hotel was erected, two stores and a blacksmith shop were in operation, and the village numbered about 30 residences. The Hancock Brothers were proprietors of one of the stores, and D. Sinclair & Co. built a sawmill, which was set in operation in the spring of 1858, employing 30 men. The apparent success of the village aroused the jealousy of the Wabasha people, and bitter feelings were engendered. However, these promising symptoms of growth soon came to an end. It was found that boats could not land at Tepeeotah except in high water, in consequence of the Beef Slough Bar, the very bar which the people had thought would prove beneficial to them, to the detriment of Wabasha, it being difficult for boats to pass it in low water. Then the hard times of 1857-1858 came on, the proprietors became deeply involved, and the business of the village, laboring under these combined disadvantages, sank to nothing. Boats refused to land there except at rare intervals, and people began to avoid and desert the isolated locality. On a March night in 1859 an incendiary torch was applied to its deserted buildings, and in a few short hours all vestiges of the former village had been swept out of existence.

Pauselim, another abandoned village, was laid out in 1863 by William A. Johnson and Mr. Morgan, on the northwest quarter of section 27, and covered some 40 acres. The proprietors named their village after a certain make of pottery, believing that the land contained the particular kind of clay from which it was made, which belief in the end proved fallacious. The site was originally claimed by Orrin A. Hancock, who built a hotel in section 22, in 1857. He sold out to Mr. Johnson in 1861, and in 1862 built a store there and established a post office, with himself as postmaster, platting the village the next year. Soon afterwards he sold the store to Henry Etting, who conducted it for several years. Mr. Johnson was a shrewd business man, and an acquisition to the town of Greenfield. He foresaw the building of the railroad, but mistook its route and located it too far west. A number of dwellings were erected about the "Corners," but the advent of the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Chicago railroad, in 1871, drew people further east; and at the junction of that road with the Zumbro was laid out the village of Kellogg, which entirely superseded Pauselim, the post office being removed thither and given the new name. A Methodist church, which had been built in Pauselim in 1863-64, was moved to the newer



village in 1882. There the merchants established their stores, and within a few years there was little left of Pauselim except three or four dwellings.

### KELLOGG VILLAGE.

Kellogg Village had its beginning in 1870. The first building was erected in the fall of that year by John Huddleson. In 1871, Clement Brass built and opened a hotel, and in the fall John Mealey opened a blacksmith shop. The coming of the railroad gave a great impetus to the village, and for several years, it was the shipping point of a large territory to the southwest. Some of this business was diverted in the late seventies with the building of the railroad up the Zumbro Valley and south from Plainview.

A destructive fire occurred at Kellogg in March, 1880. At this time Calvin Potter's store was entirely consumed in the night; nothing was saved, as the building was wrapped in flames before the fire was discovered.

Kellogg is now a lively and bustling village, situated in Greenfield Township, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, nine miles south of Wabasha, the county seat. It is surrounded by a rich and beautiful farming country, and is an important shipping point for grain, livestock and farm products. The Kellogg State Bank provides adequate financial accommodations for the village and surrounding territory, while the Enterprise newspaper is a faithful mirror of local activities and current events in the outside world. Among the other prominent business concerns are a creamery, saw mill and grain elevator, besides a number of excellent stores, representing all the more important branches of commercial enterprise. There are two churches, Catholic and Methodist, and several of the strong fraternal orders have lodges here. The community is essentially modern and well-to-do, and includes among its population a number of retired farmers.

This village was incorporated by a legislative act approved February 14, 1877. The railroad company had adopted the name of Kellogg, in honor of a Milwaukee gentleman who furnished the station signs, and the village took the same cognomen. The act of incorporation named J. E. Gage, Joseph Ginthner and John Schouweiler as judges of the first election, and they were elected village trustees, with Calvin Potter as president and Edward A. Tupper recorder. J. O. Junkin was elected treasurer. On July 24, C. H. Coleman was appointed recorder, to fill vacancy caused by Tupper's removal from the town.

**The Kellogg State Bank.**—This institution had its origin in a private bank, known as The Bank of Kellogg, which was organized by John Costello, Linn Whitmore and Charles C. Hirschy, June 1, 1905, with a capital of \$10,000. On March 28, 1908, the bank was incorporated as the Kellogg State Bank, with Joseph Graff president, Walter McNallan, vice-president, and John Costello, cashier; with C. C. Hirschy, L. Whitmore, John H. Schouweiler, Joseph C. Schierts and Peter Howe, directors. As a state bank it started with total resources of \$50,046.40. In 1913 Peter Howe was elected president, John H. Schouweiler vice-president, John Costello cashier, and the latter's son, John D. Costello, who had just returned from the war, assistant cashier. In January, 1919, John Costello was elected vice-president and John D. Costello was made cashier. In 1920 John H. Hager was elected assistant cashier. The present officers are: Peter Howe, president; John H. Schouweiler and John Costello, vice-presidents; J. D. Costello, cashier, and John H. Hager, assistant cashier. L. Whitmore, C. C. Hirschy, Joseph C. Schierts, Joseph Graff and Dennis McNallan are directors. On January 1, 1914, the rate of interest on time deposits was raised from three per cent to four per cent. On December 31, 1919, the capital was raised from \$10,000 to \$25,000, with a surplus of \$5,000, the undivided profits being \$6,420.40, loans and discounts, \$369,902.00, and deposits, \$375,265.00. The growth of the institution is shown by its steadily increasing volume of business, in 1910 the loans and discounts being \$92,456.65, and



deposits, \$99,701.46; and in 1915 the loans and discounts being \$175,147.75 and deposits, \$169,711.15.

**Kellogg Catholic Church.**—Kellogg parish was originally part of Wabasha and attended from there. The church here was built in 1900 and enlarged in 1908. The church property was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Miles McDonough. The first resident pastor was the Rev. James Culliton. There are about 100 families or 500 souls in the parish. The rectory was built in 1910. The pastor now serving is Rev. M. J. Grehan.

**Kellogg Lodge, No. 122, A. F. A. M.,** was organized January 13, 1876. Work, under dispensation, was begun April 24, 1875, by the few Masons then resident here. The following were the first officers: M. O. Kemp, W. M.; J. E. Gage, S. W.; M. K. Wolfe, J. W.; J. O. Junkin, Treas.; Paul Miller, Sec.; John Mealey, S. D.; J. W. Moore, J. D.; G. B. Albertson, S. S.; William Albertson, J. S.; John Kins, Tyler.

**Midland Junction** is the point at which the Zumbrota Branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul leaves the main River Division, and starts eastward up the Zumbro Valley.

#### WATOPA TOWNSHIP.

**Watopa Township** is rough in contour, broken by the valleys of the numerous creeks. Indian Creek valley extends across the town from east to west, the stream entering on section 31 and leaving on 24. North of this is Snake creek, whose head is near the west side of the town, flowing about due east, and joining the Zumbro on section 12. The Whitewater river crosses the southeastern portion, and thus the town is composed of alternate ridges and valleys. The ridge between the Whitewater and Indian creek is quite broad, and is known as "Hoosier Ridge." Those on either side of Snake creek are narrow. Branches of the Zumbro mouth meander in the northeastern part. The town occupies Congressional Township 109, Range 10. It is bounded on the north by Greenfield Township, on the west by Highland Township, on the south by Whitewater Township and a small strip of Mt. Vernon Township, in Winona County, and on the east by Minneiska Township.

Among the earliest residents were Frank and John Gage, who settled in Whitewater Valley in 1855, John Gage making claim to a section of land in that valley, in the northeastern part of the town. He arrived in August, and in September sent for his family, and for a time they were the only white inhabitants. The Indians were quite numerous, and would often give trouble by stealing their loose property. Mr. Gage was the only settler until 1856, when his brother joined him, and soon others arrived in the neighborhood, including Garret Fitzgerald, Christ Abbott, Ole Paulson, James and Daniel Gow, John Fedderson, and George and William Christie. In 1857 John Kickey and John Keating settled on Snake Creek. In 1858 Dr. L. D. Holmes settled on Indian Creek, and J. B. Haines became his neighbor next year. These were eastern people, and a spirit of enterprise came with them.

On September 7, 1856, a son was born to John and Eleanor Gage. He was christened Burton Wallace, and died January 25, 1859. During the latter year a daughter was born to Charles Simpson, but is now deceased. These are the earliest births of which any knowledge can be found. The first residents of the town to be united in marriage were William Ryan and Margaret Hickey. This wedding was celebrated at Wabasha, February 16, 1863.

The first school in the township was taught in 1857-1858, in a house owned by John Gage. Mrs. Timothy Young planned to be the first teacher, but fell dead while scrubbing the floor in preparation for the first session. John Porter and Charles Simpson were early teachers.

The first religious services were held in 1860 at the home of J. B. Haines, by William Welds, whose wife taught in the log schoolhouse nearby.



Rev. D. B. Gleason, of the Read's Landing Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, preached in the home of J. B. Haines in 1860. His successor, Rev. Harvey Webb, also held services there the following year.

Many interesting stories are told of the pioneer days. As late as 1859, flour was difficult to procure in the spring and early summer, after the long winter had exhausted the supply brought by boats in the previous fall. On one occasion J. B. Haines and Charles Jencks set out for Minnesota City to procure flour, and had nothing for lunch on the way save some green cucumbers. At noon they turned out the oxen to feed, and sat down by a spring to eat their lunch. On reaching their destination, they succeeded in securing fifty pounds of flour, which was to feed several families in the valley. When Mr. Haines had raised a crop of wheat, he engaged men to thresh it. The dinner provided for the hungry workmen was devoid of bread or pastry. Butter and cream were plenty, and also tea and coffee. Trout, which was easily caught in Indian Creek at that time, furnished the flesh, and squash the vegetable portion. For dessert, sweetened stewed pumpkin was supplied, sugar being easily obtainable from steamboat points.

Watopa was organized May 11, 1858. The Indian name, Watopa, was adopted, after considerable discussion of other titles. The supervisors chosen were Christ Abbott, chairman, John Gage and Henry Wagner. Charles Simpson was made town clerk, Daniel Seymour, justice of the peace, and John Crain, constable.



## CHAPTER XX.

### MOUNT PLEASANT TOWNSHIP.

**Mount Pleasant** occupies Congressional Township 111, Range 13, and is bounded on the north and west by Goodhue County, on the east and south by Lake and Gillford Townships. Its surface is an undulating prairie, sloping to the east and but comparatively little broken by cooleys. At a point a little south of the center begins a ridge which runs westward into the edge of Goodhue County, and in its vicinity are several natural mounds, one of these, the Lone Mound, being the highest point in the township. The name was suggested by the magnificent view presented to an observer from the tops of some of the elevations in the south central part. From the summit of Lone Mound the sight is especially impressive. For miles in all directions stretches the expanse of prairie, whose fertility is attested by the neat and commodious buildings everywhere present; while to the northeast the eye catches the river hills of the Wisconsin side, and a glimpse of the blue waters of Lake Pepin through the valley of Boodie Creek. The northern part is drained by Sugar-Loaf Creek, sometimes called Gilbert Valley Creek, and in the eastern part Boodie Creek begins its short course to the lake, amid wild and romantic surroundings. The underlying rocks here are Potsdam lime and sandstone, which appear as picturesque walls along the valleys, with an occasional outcrop on the prairie, and are covered with strata of till, sand, gravel, yellow and blue clay, and rich loam.

A few birch, shrub-oak and poplar grow along the cooleys, but no timber of consequence is found. Wild grapes and plums are abundant in their season.

On the prairie roads are good but in the cooleys much labor is required to keep them passable, owing to the rains which frequently work destruction by washing away or covering with debris from the hillsides. An Indian trail from Central Point formerly ran through Gilbert Valley, and one crossed the southern part of the township. The first road in the township was one from Central Point to Mazeppa, reaching the prairie at the head of Bull's Cooley. It was laid out by P. D. Martin and Robert Phillips, of Central Point, and used but a few years, the Mazeppa road, crossing the township diagonally, was early established, being the main artery through which Lake City receives its extensive trade from the southwest.

In June, 1854, the settlement was begun by the location of O. A. Warren on the northwest quarter of section 1. He came with his family from Jo Daviess County, Illinois, and was a native of the Empire State. The fall of the same year saw the arrival of Isaac Horton and William Bean, who settled on sections 12 and 1, respectively. In the spring of 1855 William Walters and Alfred Hannings settled in the northeastern part, and the next summer brought Milo Bull and Joel Clark. Mr. Clark purchased William Bean's "right of settlement" for \$250.00. In the fall Sanford Gilbert settled here. These settlements were all made in the valley. In 1856 the prairie in the southeastern part was settled by William Mann, Benj. Taylor, E. P. C. Fowler, S. B. Clark, George Clark, E. H. Palmer, William Lewis, Jacob Rinus, Alfred Betterly, and perhaps others. The year 1857 saw quite an immigration, and the township rapidly filled up.

Those who came with a supply of money got along well enough, but many who lacked ready cash, experienced considerable hardship. During the "winter of the deep snow" (1856-57) markets were often inaccessible, provisions rather scarce, and trust was not to be had by the moneyless. Stories are told of those who lived for weeks on potatoes and salt, or a similarly scant diet,



and one family is said to have existed four weeks on frozen rutabagas. Here, as elsewhere, the monotony of life was broken by visiting with ox teams, merry gatherings, getting lost on the prairie, hunting and fishing, and as the settlement grew older, and the virgin soil bestowed successive bounties on the brave pioneers, population and prosperity rapidly increased, and this little spot, but yesterday the home of the buffalo and Indian, has become one of the most desirable places in the county.

Until the building of the narrow-gauge railroad through the central part of the county the Mazeppa road was the scene of a constant stream of travel, many of the farmers coming long distances. For the accommodation of this portion of the traveling public, in the temporal matters of eating, drinking and lodging, J. Kramer, in 1858, built a small log hotel on section 26. The Boston House, about a mile down the road, was erected in the fall of 1857 by Sidney Cross. For several years after it was built it enjoyed a good patronage until 1878, when the travel was materially lessened and the Boston House was closed to the public. With the introduction of the automobile traffic, the Mazeppa road has resumed some of its former importance.

In the summer of 1856 the residents of the northeastern part hired Laura Eldred to teach a term of three months. The only shelter available for the work was a little claim shanty which stood across the road on the edge of Goodhue County. These were the first educational advantages enjoyed by residents of this township. The first term taught in the township was probably in the summer of 1857, in the northern part, by Mrs. Alexander Graham. Among the other pioneer teachers of that day were Alfred Hannings, who taught the first term in district No. 7; Mary Smith, who began the work of education in No. 12; George Sexton, of No. 10; Mrs. P. C. Tabor in No. 67, and Mary Burleigh in No. 8. The first schools were nearly all taught before the organization of the districts by private subscription, and usually in some discarded claim or log shanty. In some instances schools were held in private houses for several years, and the facilities enjoyed were necessarily very crude. Books from different states, and of many kinds, was one of the difficulties presented to the teacher. In district No. 12 the third term was held in a little log house in which Sidney Cross had formerly "bached it," and he again found himself master in that shanty, this time in a different capacity. In this instance each family provided a seat for its young hopefuls, the size of the family bench being regulated by the number of children. In one district a school was held in a small granary about the time that very large hoops were the style; as the teacher dressed in fashion when she entered the temple of learning but little room was left for much else. So the hoops had to be dispensed with, making an odd and noticeable change in contrast with her usual appearance.

The first birth in this township was that of a daughter to Mrs. S. B. Clark. In the spring of 1857 death first visited the town, taking Mrs. Palmer from the little settlement. In March, 1859, the Rev. Silas Hazlett united in marriage Ephraim Selby and Adaline Clark, which was probably the first marriage in the township.

In the spring of 1858 a meeting was held at the residence of E. H. Palmer to determine the name of the township about to be organized. Several names were proposed, among them "Huntington," by Wm. Lewis, and "Greenfield," by Silas Gilbert, both seeking to honor places of former residence. After considerable debate the present name was adopted, as before mentioned, being suggested by the views the adjacent elevations commanded. May 11, 1858, the legal voters met at the house of Benj. Taylor, on section 32, twenty-three voters being present. The meeting was organized by choosing Stanton B. Clark, moderator; James M. Knapp, judge; and E. P. C. Fowler and Sidney Cross, clerks. The officers elected were: Supervisors, E. H. Palmer (chairman), J. W. Cross and Silliman Gilbert; clerk, E. P. C. Fowler; treasurer, O. A. Warren; assessor, Joel Clark; overseer of poor, Harvey Seymour; constables J. M. Knapp and Alfred Betterly; justices, S. B. Clark and Isaac C. Smith.



Good Templar Lodge, No. 121, was organized July 27, 1875, by F. C. Stow, D. G. W. C. T., at the Presbyterian church, with fifty-six charter members. Soon after this meetings were begun in the grange hall, and there continued until the sale of the building, which deprived them of a place of meeting and was the main element in the death of the organization, no regular meetings being held thereafter.

In 1870, T. A. Thompson, of Plainview, then state lecturer in the interests of the grange, visited this neighborhood and stirred up an interest which resulted in the establishment of a grange. Mount Pleasant Grange, No. 53, was organized at the schoolhouse of district No. 10, June 21, 1870, by D. K. G. Clark. It began with thirty-one charter members and the following officers were chosen: W. J. Newton, M.; J. C. Fowler, Sec.; N. F. Randolph, Chap., and T. W. Robinson, Lect. At first meetings were held at the schoolhouse and afterward for several years at the residence of J. C. Fowler. In 1874 the old schoolhouse of district No. 10 was purchased and fitted up for a hall, which was used until the disbanding in 1878. The last meeting was held May 8, 1878.

Rev. Silas Hazlett, of Lake City, was the first to hold religious services in this township. In January, 1857, he met about a dozen persons at the log house of Stanton Clark. Two weeks later he preached at E. P. C. Fowler's, and for some time his services were held at private houses, or on the open prairie beneath an oak-tree's verdant roof. When the schoolhouse of district No. 10 was built services were there held, and the Presbyterian church was organized with about six members. In 1867 a frame church was erected.

During the war the community in the southwestern part of the township was visited by Rev. Stillwell, who preached a few times; by Rev. Hill, a Baptist, who preached occasionally for about a year; and also by Charles Hudson. In 1865 Henry Goodsell began preaching in the schoolhouse of district No. 10; he awakened considerable interest and organized a Methodist class. It was during his ministration that the church reached its period of greatest prosperity, and a church was built and dedicated free of debt.

The first preaching in the northern part of the township was in the fall of 1865, by Rev. Birch, then a student at the Hamlin University of Red Wing. He continued his visits about two years and organized a class in the spring of 1866 at schoolhouse No. 8. He was followed by Henry Goodsell, and during his incumbency the County Line church was built. Rev. Richardson succeeded him, and during his stay this class and the one in West Florence, Goodhue County, united. Services were held in this little church for many years, until about 15 years ago, when, having fulfilled its mission, it was torn down. The English Methodist Church in the lower part of section 29, was moved to Oak Centre 13 years ago and is still flourishing. The little church building to the northeast of it in the same section, near the line of section 28, in use for a number of years by a German Methodist congregation, was torn down about 15 years ago.

In 1880 Thomas Hartley, a Wesleyan minister of Greenwood Prairie, preached regularly in the schoolhouse, and the next year was followed by R. Balbridge, of the same denomination. A revival followed his efforts and services were transferred to the County Line church. February, 1882, a church of thirteen members was organized by him, and afterward they purchased the church building of the Methodist Episcopal organization.



## CHAPTER XXI.

### READ'S LANDING AND PEPIN TOWNSHIP.

**Read's Landing** is one of the historic spots of the upper Mississippi Region. It has been a place of much importance, and is still a most beautiful and picturesque spot. The location is a delightful one and most admirably adapted for the purposes of early Indian trade. Above it the river broadens out into the beautiful waters of Lake Pepin, around whose shores the natives were wont to gather, and associated with whose waters and rocks are some of the most plaintive legends of the northwestern tribes. Just across from it is the mouth of the Chippewa River, down whose current the fur-laden canoes came in early days, only to be followed in later years by the rafts of the Wisconsin lumbermen, each raft the tribute of a forest. The village occupies a narrow strip along the river, at the base of the cliffs or bluffs which here rise, quite precipitous, almost from the rocky shore, leaving footing, however, for the business houses and dwellings of what was the most thriving town.

Brewery Creek is a small stream fed from springs in the ravine back of the village, and emptying into the Mississippi river just west of Riverview cemetery. It forms the boundary line between Reads and the corporate limits of the city of Wabasha, and during some of the floods that have poured down the sides of the bluffs, during the excessive rainfalls of this season, has been swollen to a destructive torrent. The most disastrous rise was that of July 21, 1883, when in an hour's time it overflowed its banks, flooded Burkhardt Brothers' brewery to a depth of eight feet, swept out as though it were brushwood the solid stone abutments of the bridge on the main road from Reads to Wabasha, and carried the solid granite block, weighing tons, rods down the stream, leaving scarcely a stone to mark the old foundations.

Read's Landing has a traditional history dating far back into the opening years of the nineteenth century. It is said that Joseph Rocque had a trading post here in 1800 or soon afterward. Edward Hudson established a post here in 1840. He died three years later. His widow married Lewis Rocque, who, in 1847, sold to Charles R. Read.

Fordyce S. Richards came here in 1850 and established a trading post. Some five years later he built his storeroom and warehouse on the northwest corner of Water and Richards streets. This was a three-story building as seen from the levee, two stories from the street in front, and in this Mr. Richards did a very large business for years. The following season Knapp, Stout & Co., one of the heavy lumber firms of the Chippewa Valley, built their store and warerooms on the west of Richards', adjoining, and so business multiplied. Prior to this, in 1854, a hotel was built, and later the Bullard House was erected, which from 1859 to 1865 was known as the best hotel on the river. In 1863 the storage and commission house of Charles Nunn was established. Helmick & Warszawski followed, with others, until at the close of the war there were few points of its size on the Upper Mississippi River where so thriving a trade was carried on as at Read's Landing.

The river at Read's was the meeting-place of those hereditary foes the Chippewas and the Sioux, and to their mutual hate was often added a common enmity against their white neighbors, whose presence on both sides of the river was frequently resented. The old settlers still tell an interesting story illustrative of this: Late in November, 1856, two white men, Sam Sutton and Jerry Landerigan, were paddling down the river in a canoe past Nelson's Landing, where a party of whites, half-breeds and natives were sitting near the shore. Among the bucks was the son of old Ironcloud, second chief of Wacoutah's



band. Young Ironcloud had for some time aspired to the honors of chieftainship, and on being taunted by the young men of his tribe with having done nothing to deserve such distinction, had declared he would shoot the first white man or Chippewa he met. The present seemed a fitting occasion to display his prowess, and remarking that he wondered if his gun would carry that far, drew bead on the men in the boat and shot them both. Sam Sutton was mortally wounded, surviving, however, about twenty-four hours. Jerry Landerigan was severely wounded in the breast, but recovered after being laid up several months. Wahshechah-Soppah, known by the English name of John Walker, was in the company with young Ironcloud, and immediately crossing the river to Read's Landing, gave information of the affair. As both the wounded men resided at Read's the excitement was intense. Sutton had made his home at Charlie Read's for more than a year, his principal occupation being the manufacture of ox-bows for the lumbermen in the pineries. Landerigan had recently come to the landing. It was not considered prudent to allow the matter to pass, as young Ironcloud was known to be a dangerous character. A party was soon started across the river who captured the murderer and brought him to Read's for trial. He was arraigned before Justice Richards, but the justice was powerless in the case, the crime having been committed in another territory. To obviate this difficulty resort was had to Indian law. The culprit, of whose identity there was not the smallest doubt, was quietly escorted to the place from whence he came by a band of determined whites, led by Charles R. Read, and was there lynched. The squaws tracked the party by their imprint in the snow, and the next day cutting down young Ironcloud's body, brought it across the river and buried it. The snow lay deep upon the ground at the time. The margin of the river was frozen on either side, the current in the main channel only open. Wrapping the body in blankets, the squaws tied a rope around the feet and dragged it to the margin of the stream, placed it in a canoe and brought it over to the Minnesota shore. A ball was in progress at Read's Landing the evening of the lynching, and the excitement was most intense among the young people there assembled, many of whom had only that summer come to the county, and were totally unused to such scenes of blood, or to such a summary mode of dealing with a murderer.

Read's achieved its first importance as a convenient point for the fur traders. Next it became a steamboat point of wide fame. In the steamboat days of the fifties and sixties, the period of about two weeks in the early spring between the opening of the Mississippi River and the opening of Lake Pepin, changed the hamlet into an active metropolis.

The steamers arriving from below, a score or so in number, loaded with north-bound passengers, were impatiently awaiting the opening of the lake. The crews had no better business on hand than to make the most of their time on shore, and the passengers, those of them who did not take stage northward, only served to swell the tide of impatient discontent. Bets would accumulate, and money was freely wagered daily on the question of an opened or closed lake within a given period. Burbank's stage route, which connected La Cross with St. Paul during the winter season, was fully utilized at this season by those desirous of making their way northward for opening navigation, without delay; and as the rattling vehicles clattered over the gravel and cobble-stones with which the streets of Read's are so plentifully sprinkled, the little town took on an appearance of active business.

The building of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway along the Mississippi in 1871 robbed Read's of its importance as a steamboat center. It still continued a busy place as a center of supplies for the lumbermen of the Chippewa Valley, but this business was taken away by the building of the Chippewa Division in 1882. For many years the town was a favorite resort for lumber jacks, and many scenes of violence and lawlessness were staged on the streets, but in time this trade was also diverted to other points.



It was during the season of Read's greatest prosperity, before the opening of the railway to Eau Claire, that the incorporation of the village was deemed advisable by the inhabitants of the little big trading and freighting post, and steps accordingly taken to accomplish that object. This incorporation was effected under an act of the state legislature approved March 5, 1868, and the election to fill the various offices created by said act was held on the second day of the following month, April 2, 1868. The officers to be elected were five trustees, one clerk, one treasurer, one marshal, one justice of the peace and one assessor. The judges of election were: J. Sauer, C. R. Read and Wm. B. Haines; the clerks were: P. B. Cline and Claude R. Haines. The highest number of votes cast was for the office of trustee, ninety-seven being polled. The successful candidates were—trustees: F. S. Richards (president), D. W. Wilson, Joe Dieterich, Jacob Sauer, Christ. Neihardt; clerk, Joseph Warszawski; treasurer, B. Brass; marshal, Wm. F. Clock; justice of the peace, Wm. B. Haines; assessor, Chas. Hornbogen. After several years of municipal government the incorporation was abandoned, and the hamlet merged in its original affiliation with Pepin Township.

**Methodist Episcopal Church.**—The planting of the church in this place was a proceeding of no small difficulty, and it was more than a decade after the first attempts were made before the seed had germinated sufficiently to predicate a fact of life in the case at all. As Read's Landing and Wabasha have always been connected for church purposes, save during those years from 1856 to 1866, in which it does not appear that Read's Landing was even thought of in connection with the religious work of the Wabasha circuit, with which from 1854 to 1856 it was connected as a missionary station. In 1857, by vote of a quarterly conference held at Wabasha for the Lake City and Wabasha circuits of the Red Wing district, it was decided that the Wabasha circuit should include Wabasha, Read's Landing and Cook's Valley, but there is no record of any services at Read's, nor, as before said, is there authentic account of further work there until 1866. The importance attached to Read's at this time may be inferred from the fact that in the fall of this year, when the annual estimates for minister's salary were made up, it was hoped that a deficiency of seventeen dollars, remaining after other apportionments had been allotted, might be supplied by Read's. Whether this modest hope was realized or not, does not appear from the record, and in fact for ensuing two years no promise of life appeared for Church organization at Read's. Its life as a lumber depot, and center of rafting operations, called together the wrong class of people for any very marked interest in church work. Exceptions of necessity there were, but so little hold had all attempts hitherto made taken upon the life of the place, that at this time the church had neither class nor organization of any kind, nor did it have for the ensuing two years. In 1868 Rev. S. G. Gale was transferred from the New York East conference to the Minnesota conference, and appointed to the Wabasha and Read's Landing circuit. His salary was fixed at eight hundred dollars, six hundred and fifty dollars of which to be paid by the churches, the remaining one hundred and fifty dollars from the missionary fund. In the following winter, 1868-69, Rev. Gale entered vigorously upon his work of building up a church at Read's, as the village incorporated the previous spring was called. A series of meetings was held with gratifying success, and steps taken to build a church. A lot was secured in a central location, one street back from the main business street of the village, and on this property, the gift of some generous-hearted Christian whose name is not recorded, a comfortable frame church, 30 by 60, with spire and bell, was erected. The original board of trustees, incorporated according to state law and church usage were: W. W. Slocum, B. F. Welch, W. W. Cassady, W. B. James, S. Bullard, Geo. J. J. Crichton, W. F. Kennicott, Daniel Dansion and Franklin Berins. Rev. W. C. Rice was pastor of the church from the fall of 1869 to 1870. Rev. B. Y. Coffin was his successor, and in the fall of 1871, Rev. S. G. Gale was reappointed. During



this, his second pastorate, a substantial frame parsonage was erected on the lot adjoining the church on the east, commanding a pleasant view of the river and the Wisconsin bluffs. Rev. Gale remained two years, leaving behind him as monuments of his three years' ministry, a commodious church, a comfortable parsonage and a flourishing "class." Other early pastors were: Revs. W. C. Shaw, M. O. M'Niff, W. H. Soule, James Door, W. A. Miles and D. J. Higgins.

### PEPIN TOWNSHIP.

**Pepin Township** is a fractional township lying along the shores of Lake Pepin and the Mississippi River. Pepin Township is virtually a ridge or narrow tableland, lying between the Mississippi river and the Zumbro, at an elevation of from three hundred feet to five hundred feet above the level of the Mississippi river. This tableland breaks off abruptly on the north or lake side, but descends more gradually on the south toward the valley of the Zumbro; but this southern declension does not begin within the limits of Pepin Township, so that the high character of the ground is preserved to its extreme southern limit. The surface of this tableland is quite rolling, at times even broken, but all lies elevated, and is, with the exceptions of some ravines jutting up from the lake, of tillable character. There are no streams crossing the face of the township, though a small one, in which water is found running at nearly all seasons of the spring, summer and fall, empties into the lake near the northeastern corner of the township, through the ravine technically known as King's cooley. There are two of these "cooleys" within the limits of Pepin township—King's cooley in the northeast, and Smith's cooley in the southwest. Through both of these the water rushes, an impetuous torrent, after copious rains, or when the deep snows, lingering late on the uplands are suddenly melted by the ascending sun of late spring, but at other times they are dry, and in Smith's cooley for most of the time no water is found running.

The soil of Pepin Township is a friable clay, yellowish in color, and with a very slight admixture of sand. It was originally covered with scrub oak.

The first claims outside of Read's Landing were taken in the middle fifties, but the first permanent settlers outside the village did not come until 1859. They were Henry Schmauss and Ben Lager. Henry Schmauss settled on the northwest quarter of section 30, buying out the original claimant. Ben Lager settled on the northwest quarter of section 28, also buying out the original claimant. In after years he said that in 1859 there were not more than fifty acres of ground broken on the ridge between Schmauss' and Read's Landing, which is virtually to say there was not more than that amount under cultivation in the entire township. The fact that the elevation above the lake was high, no streams affording water for stock, and the situation naturally exposed to the wind, seemed to overbalance the considerations of productiveness of soil and nearness to market, to such an extent that the lower-lying and well watered valleys of the interior of the county were settled from four to five years before Pepin was really taken for farming purposes.

The formal organization of Pepin Township was effected in common with that of the other townships in the county, May 11, 1858. This meeting of the electors of the township for the purpose of formal organization was held in the hamlet of Read's Landing, at the office of S. A. Kemp.



## CHAPTER XXII.

### LAKE TOWNSHIP AND LAKE CITY.

**Lake** is a rather small township, both on account of Lake Pepin, which lies partly within its boundaries, and because the city of Lake City was carved out of its original territory. Most of it lies back of the bluffs which form a kind of amphitheater within which the city is situated. Its surface is rolling, diversified by ravines and bluffs, from the summit of which fine views of Lake Pepin and the Mississippi Valley may be had. The soil is largely of yellow clay, and produces the finest crops of wheat; other crops, as potatoes, barley, rye, corn, etc., are also raised in abundance, but the best proof of the fertility of the soil is found in the tasty farm houses and large barns that dot the landscape in every direction, evidently the homes of intelligent and prosperous people. It was settled largely by the Irish, and the present population is composed mostly of Irish, Germans and Americans.

Lake Township was first officially known as the town of Lake City, and as such included within its limits Lake City proper, which settlement, however, soon obtained special powers to be hereinafter described. It was not so much beauty of location, as it was opportunity for trade, that was sought by the early settlers along the upper Mississippi, else the beautiful location this city now occupies would not so long have remained unclaimed by white settlers. The Indian ports at Red Wing and at Wabasha, the inlet and outlet of Lake Pepin, had been the home of half-breeds for years previous to any settlement at this point, and white traders had also been resident there for no inconsiderable time prior to the coming of any white settlers to this immediate vicinity. The mouth of the Chippewa River on the Wisconsin shore, and Read's on this, had been occupied as trading ports by whites, the former for eighteen years, the latter for nearly as long, before Jacob and Philip Boody laid claim and settled upon lands now within the corporate limits of this city. This settlement was effected in the autumn of 1853, the claims in all amounting to 328 acres, lying up the lake from the central part of the city. In May of the spring following, Mr. Patrick Conway and his two sons, James and William, arrived, and took claims back of the present city, near the old territorial road. In June, Mr. Abner Dwelle and his family, together with John Boody, cousin of the first claimants, came and took claims down the lake, and these were the only settlements prior to the year 1855. The spring of 1855 brought quite a reinforcement to the little settlement, and from that time forward frequent accession to the number of settlers occurred, until in the fall of 1856 it was estimated that about 300 persons were settled in the neighborhood. Among the arrivals of 1855 whose names have become household words were Abner Tibbetts, William Berry, Seth Skinner, who brought a small stock of goods which he retailed from a board shanty belonging to Abner Tibbetts, and Mr. Samuel Doughty, who bought the claims of Jacob and Philip Boody, and in June of this year erected the first frame dwelling in the place, bringing his lumber by raft from Read's Landing. This building, originally intended as a kitchen for the more considerable dwelling he proposed to erect, was 18 by 26 feet, and stood very nearly upon the site of the present dwelling of Mr. Doughty on High street. He also brought a few blacksmithing tools with him and though his shop was not very commodious, its usefulness to the pioneers as a place where their plows might be sharpened, amply compensated for its lack of windows and chimney. Although the country was still a wilderness, and Indians were constantly passing back and forth from Red Wing to Wabasha, camping on the shores of the



lake near the houses of the early settlers, and occasionally inviting themselves to dinner, yet they were generally civil, and the settlers knew very little of the privations that oft are suffered by pioneers in sections far removed from the highways of trade. Provisions were brought from Prairie du Chien by the steamers that were constantly plying up and down the river, for these were the days when trade was booming upon the Mississippi, as many as nine steamers having been seen in the lake at one time. The beautiful plain, encircled by bluffs on three sides and fronted by Lake Pepin, was at this time covered with burr oak, white and black oak, maple, hazel brush, etc., interspersed with little stretches of prairie as smooth as the most finely-kept lawns. Game was abundant, and the lake and creeks teemed with fish. Currey creek was especially noted for deer, there being several runways upon it, and a drove of nineteen elk was at one time seen by Mr. Doughty on the prairie back of the town.

Nothing but sheer laziness would prevent a man from obtaining as many prairie chickens and ducks as desired. Wolves, too, were common, and were frequently seen in numbers playing upon the ice of the lake. In the year 1856, large numbers arrived, and buildings of a permanent character were rapidly pushed. Messrs. Tibbetts, Dwelle and Baldwin erected a large store building in 1855 and 1856, which was occupied by H. F. Williamson, who opened quite a large stock of goods. This building stood near the foot of Washington street, where the old grange warehouse now is. Mr. Patten also built a store, and the steamers, which previously objected to landing at this point, began to make regular stops. A town was surveyed and platted this year, Messrs. Tibbetts, Dwelle, and Doughty being proprietors, and the lots sold rapidly to the newcomers. Mr. Doughty donated four of his best lots, in what is now the central portion of the town, to Messrs. Jacobs and Sigler, in consideration of their erecting a hotel thereon. The City Hotel, the result of this transaction, stood on the corner now occupied by Stout, Dwelle and Hassinger's clothing store, and was a good-sized and popular house. It was converted into a store afterwards, and finally destroyed by fire in 1882. In the year, also, a sawmill was erected by Messrs. Gillett, Thompson, Starr, and A. H. Gaylord at the foot of Main street, the frame of which is still standing.

Abner Tibbetts built a grain warehouse, which was occupied by J. L. Armstrong and L. H. Maples, who started the forwarding and commission business. During this year the Congregationalists built a small church, which was destroyed by a windstorm while in process of erection, but was immediately rebuilt. The materials for building were rafted from above, principally from Stillwater and Hastings. The town grew rapidly. In 1857, John T. Averill put a run of stone into the planing-mill of Tupper & Sons, which was the first move toward a gristmill. The postoffice was established in 1856, and H. F. Williamson appointed postmaster. The first child born upon ground included in the town plat was a girl born to John Boody and wife, in the summer of 1854. The first death in the settlement was in the same family, Mrs. John Boody, who died sometime in 1855. The first marriage was that of G. W. Hathaway and Miss Abbey Langley, in the year 1857. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Silas Hazlett, who also taught the school. Matters continued to improve in the little colony until the lands were legally entered and title properly acquired, soon after which the formal organization of the county into townships was effected, and the history of the colony here becomes a part of that of Lake City Township, May 11, 1858, the time of the first town meeting, to be resumed as separate history in 1864, when by special act of legislature the city was endowed with special and corporate privileges. The first town meeting was held at the City Hotel, May 13, 1858, at which there were 103 votes polled and the following-named gentlemen were elected town officers: Supervisors—Charles W. Hackett, Abner Dwelle, Samuel Doughty; town clerk—Dewitt C. Sterry; assessor—Henry Collins; collector—H. M. Hulett; overseer of the poor—John McNeil; con-



stables—Henry O. Perry, Levi Collins, Jr.; justices of the peace—D. C. Estes, G. L. Porter; pound master—A. K. Gaylord.

The period of early settlement was not without its tragedies, which every now and then cast a gloom over the community. One of these occurred in June, 1858, when Julia and Rebecca Stout, and two sisters named Stowell, members of a picnic party to Maiden Rock, Wis., were drowned during a squall on Lake Pepin by the upsetting of their sailboat. Another notable accident occurred in the spring of 1859, when the steamer Aeolian was crushed by the ice and sunk, two men and an old lady being drowned.

By special legislative enactment, of date March 3, 1864, the supervisors of the town of Lake City were given special powers, which were equivalent in general terms to those usually exercised by the board of trustees of an incorporated village, or the common council of an incorporated city, but these special powers were only made applicable to a particularly specified section of the town of Lake City, to wit: The S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and lots Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Sec. 4; and the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  and N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5; the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and lots Nos. 1 and 2 of Sec. 5; and the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and lots Nos. 1 and 2 of Sec. 9, all in T. 111 N., of R. 12 W., according to United States survey. This tract, as above described, included that portion lying between the railroad track and the lake, with the addition of some small territory on the south side of the railway tracks about the depot, and also in the lower part of the village. It was a strip of land lying along Lake Pepin, a distance of a little over one and a half miles in length and extending backward from the lake a distance varying from one-half to three-fourths of a mile. It was this portion of Lake City township, that while still continuing an integral part of that township, was practically cut off from it, by the special act of March 3, 1864, above referred to.

It was made the duty of the township supervisors to enforce the regulations and the manner of procedure in such cases was duly set forth. The justices of the town of Lake City were given original and exclusive jurisdiction in all cases arising under the act, and no appeal could be taken in any case where the fine imposed did not exceed twenty dollars. The supervisors of the town of Lake City were also empowered to appoint a marshal, who was required to furnish bond, and given all the authority of constable under the statute of the state. The supervisors were also authorized and required to vote a tax upon the taxable property of the district thus governed sufficient to pay the expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of the act; that tax was to be by majority vote of the town supervisors, and the town clerk was required to file a copy of record of such vote upon which the tax was to be levied and collected, as all other township taxes were. The assessor of the town of Lake City was also required to make a separate list of the persons and personal property of all residents of the specified district in the same manner as was required to be done in the case of residents of incorporated towns. The act took effect from and after its passage, and thenceforth the town supervisors of Lake City had a corporation to look after, which was not incorporated, and the district above described had all the honors and privileges of an incorporated village or city without its liabilities and many of its burdens. The legislature of 1866 made some additional provisions, concerning the building of sidewalks, and the town supervisors were authorized to direct so much of the poll and road tax, derived from the tax of the special district, as they deemed to be best, to the maintenance of bridges and highways in adjacent townships.

By act of legislature, approved March 9, 1867, some material additions were made to the powers of the supervisors of the town of Lake City, chiefly relating to licenses, the prohibition of gaming and card-playing, and the establishment of fire limits, with restrictions in regard to the construction of wooden buildings; also in regard to the confinement of arrested persons, the construction of a street through the center of Block 1, and the leasing of part of the levee.



Thus a favored corner of Lake City Township was granted, and enjoyed for eight years, all the benefits and privileges that could have been secured through a city charter, while the responsibilities of incorporation were largely avoided; and all the expense of carrying on the machinery was the sum of two dollars per capita for the township supervisors and town clerk for every day actually expended in the direction of affairs. True, the township officers could be sued, but there was no provision for their contracting any obligations for this specified district as such, and the arrangement all through was one on which Lake City, unincorporated, might well congratulate herself.

The condition of the city, its growth and development as a corporate body, virtually dates from 1864, the year in which, under special legislative enactment, the inhabitants of this particular portion of Lake City township began to assume the methods of city governments. Little change requiring note appears to have transpired in that year, and the early part of 1865. The attention of all classes was directed to the great struggle between north and south, to the exclusion of almost all else; and it was not until the nation emerged from the conflict, and her surviving defenders came trooping homeward, that the great heart of the country breathed free, and the life of all industries resumed their natural flow. At this time, midsummer of 1865, the township of Lake City had a population of 1,411; of these from 1,100 to 1,200 were included within the city limits. The citizens of the little mart on the shores of Lake Pepin were aspiring to the direction of so much of the trade of the surrounding country as a liberal policy would enable them to control. They had attempted the creation of a market for grain at this point by providing the best roads possible. They had steadily resisted all seductions to combine against the producer and depress prices, and by this policy had gained the confidence of the wheat-growers in adjacent counties, many of whom brought their surplus grain to Lake City market, the advance in price secured here more than compensating for the remoteness of the market. The season for grain shipments during 1865 lasted 248 days; and in that time there were shipped from this point, of wheat alone, 660,394 bushels; and there was in store 66,000 bushels. Prices ruled for the year about one dollar and five cents on the average, and had it not been for the rapacity of the transportation companies, it was claimed that the average price for the season would have ruled ten cents per bushel higher. The exaction led to attempted combinations on the part of the shippers, out of which new lines of freight-carrying vessels originated; and competition, as far as practicable, restored the balances to something like equity. The tonnage of the vessels passing this point, and receiving and discharging freight at Lake City docks, was computed at 12,631 tons, and the whole number of vessels fifty-three. To these were to be added 129 barges and lighters, with a farther capacity of 19,350 tons.

The increase in population of the town of Lake City for the semi-decade from 1860 to 1865 was 545, an increase of 63 per cent. No separate census returns were kept of population within the village, and how much of the increase was in town or how much in country cannot now be ascertained. The substantial improvements in building alone during 1865 aggregated nearly \$85,000, about one-third of which was on Washington street. The improvements were very largely new structures.

In February, 1866, a board of trade was organized, with which most of the leading men of the city were identified. This organization had, among other objects, that of securing more equitable freight rates for grain and merchandise. An anti-monopoly convention had been called, representing the merchants and shippers of the state, to meet at St. Paul and to this convention the Lake City board of trade sent its representatives. The result of the deliberations at St. Paul was the determination to build a line of boats and put them on the river—to be known as the People's line—the people holding and owning the stock. Committees were appointed to secure subscriptions to such stock, and



President Williamson, of the Lake City board of trade, was appointed solicitor for this section. The organization of the Minnesota Transportation Company was the result of this convention; but as the old monopolies were breaking up, and it was thought that the resulting competition would equalize freight charges, the building of boats was abandoned. The beginning of this year, 1866, was marked by a decided interest in temperance matters on the part of the public at large. A Good Templars' lodge was organized here January 20, and within a week had 100 members. A genuine wave of temperance feeling tided over the county; lectures were common, lodges multiplied, the recruits were numerous, and the interest was well sustained throughout the year.

From the ledgers of the merchants doing business in town, it was ascertained that the volume of trade for the year ending August 1, 1866, aggregated a little over one and a half millions of dollars. The returns, however, were quite incomplete. Oats, corn, barley, manufactures in general, saloons, and other branches of business not being mentioned. The price of wheat ruled high during the shipping season, and \$15,000 a day was quite frequently paid by the buyers here. The year 1867 was ushered in with a fire which destroyed the livery stables, and some of the stock, of Russell & McNeil.

The questions of supreme importance that engaged the attention of the citizens of Lake City during the year 1867 were those of railroad aid and county-seat removal. The Chicago & St. Paul Railway Company had come to a standstill in their efforts to secure the construction of the road. A prejudice was felt against the road and eastern capitalists would not invest in its bonds; it was therefore attempted to secure the placing of some of these bonds at home, or at least a sufficient number of them to convince eastern capitalists that the road enjoyed the confidence of the residents of that portion of the state through which it was to pass. A conference between the representatives of the railroad company and leading citizens of Lake City was accordingly held June 26, and after some preliminary investigation into the character of the investment, a motion was made by Judge Stout, recommending the supervisors of the town of Lake to subscribe for first mortgage bonds of the Chicago & St. Paul Railway Company, to the amount of \$20,000, on the conditions embodied in the report of the committee that had been previously appointed and whose report was then under consideration. No result was reached, and the old company was reorganized in November, with Hon. W. B. Ogden, of Chicago, at its head. On March 6, 1868, by special act of the state legislature the village of Lake City was authorized to issue its bonds in aid of the construction of the Chicago & St. Paul railway. This act was amended February 2, 1869, the word "town" being substituted for "village," and on the sixth of that month the supervisors of the town passed an ordinance, submitting the question to the legal voters thereof. Due notice was given, and the election was held Tuesday, February 26, 1869, at which a total vote of 437 was polled. The amount of the proposed issue was \$75,000, and the poll stood: for issue, 306; against issue, 131.

The sum of \$75,000 bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, etc., the principal to mature thirty years after the date of such bonds, was voted at the special election held February 23, 1869. The delivery of these bonds was conditioned upon the completion and full operation of the Chicago and St. Paul Railroad between St. Paul and Winona on or before April 1, 1872. On June 29, 1869, the Chicago and St. Paul Railway Company contracted with the Minnesota Railway Construction Company to build and equip the railway from St. Paul to Winona, and also sold and assigned to the Minnesota Railway Construction Company all gifts, donations, bounties or aid in any form which had been or thereafter might be given to it by any person, corporation, municipality or State to aid in the construction of the railway, including the bonds which the town of Lake City had obligated itself to issue and deliver. The road was completed and cars running thereon for the entire distance specified, and the road had become entitled to the delivery of the bonds by January 1,



1872. After this on February 26, 1872, the city of Lake City was incorporated, the territory of which was carved out of the town of Lake City. No provision was made by the act incorporating the city, for the payment of any part of the debts or the assumption of any of the obligations of the town of Lake City, by the city of Lake City, nor is there any general statute of the State adjusting the liabilities of the old town within the new city. A contract, however, was entered into between the city of Lake City and the town of Lake City, through their respective municipal officers, in which it was agreed that of all cash in hand, taxes in hands of county treasurer, uncollected taxes, etc., the city of Lake City should receive 83 per cent. and the town of Lake City 17 per cent. It was further stipulated that all outstanding accounts and claims against the old town of Lake City should be borne in the same proportion by each corporation. It is perhaps necessary to state that this contract never came to the notice of the courts in which the suit that followed with the railroad company was tried. In 1873 the name of the township of Lake City was changed to the township of Lake. After the completion of the road the Minnesota Railway Construction Company presented its bonds to the officers of the town of Lake and the city of Lake City to sign, but they refused to do this, alleging fraud against the company. The Minnesota Railway Construction Company then brought suit by writ of mandamus in the Supreme Court to compel the town of Lake and city of Lake City to issue their joint and several bonds of the character and amount provided for. In this suit Thomas Wilson appeared for city of Lake City, and H. D. Stocker and W. J. Hahn for town of Lake. The defendants in this action alleged in their answer various acts of fraud on the part of the railroad company, the most material of which was that before the ordinance authorizing the holding of an election to ratify the issuing of the bonds was passed, the St. Paul and Chicago Railroad Company, for the purpose of inducing the Supervisors to pass the same, promised the Supervisors that if they would pass the ordinance, the railway company would locate on the private property of said Supervisors, thereby greatly enhancing its value. The city also made the further objection that as it was a new and distinct municipal corporation, since created and erected out of a portion of the original town of Lake City, it therefore was not liable for any of the obligations of the old town. This answer was held sufficient as to the city and the action against it was dismissed. It now remained for the town of Lake to prove the alleged fraud.

For this purpose H. D. Stocker, Esq., went to California and there obtained depositions from the old Supervisors of the town fully sustaining the position of defendants. These depositions were placed on file and coming to the notice of plaintiff's counsel induced them to offer to compromise the suit which was accordingly done and a judgment by agreement of \$2,500 was entered in the District Court of Wabasha county against town of Lake. A controversy now arose between the city and town, in relation to the payment of this judgment and the expenses of the suit. Under the contract entered into by these two corporations in 1872, the substance of which is given above, the cash on hand, taxes in hands of county treasurer, uncollected taxes, etc., belonging to the old town of Lake were divided in the ratios set forth in the contract, and all liabilities, debts, and obligations of said town had also been borne in like ratio. The expenses incurred in this suit together with the above mentioned judgment amounted to about \$9,200. The town of Lake claimed that the whole of this amount came under the operation of the contract of 1872 and that the city of Lake City was accordingly bound to pay 83 per cent of it. Considerable discussion ensued and at a meeting of the city council upon August 28, 1882, the report of a committee appointed to investigate said claims advising the payment of 83 per cent of the judgment, viz.: \$2,100 to the town of Lake in consideration of a full release by the town of all further claims against the city was unanimously adopted. The city authorities holding that expenses of the suit incurred by the town amounting to about \$4,000 were voluntarily incurred by it and



constituted a private debt of the town of Lake for which the city was not responsible under the contract. The town, however, did not accept the \$2,100 in the form it was offered, and the matter for some time remained unsettled. It was, however, finally adjusted by the payment of a part of the sum mentioned and the vexatious matter was thus brought to an end.

The county-seat question was one equally tedious of settlement, and much more provocative of animosity and sectional bitterness. On March 7 of this year, 1867, an act legislative was passed, submitting to the voters of the county the question of the removal of the county-seat from its then location, Wabasha, to Lake City. The act was passed upon a petition of the citizens, and competition for the capital honors became lively. Lake City bid for the removal by pledging her bonds to the extent of \$20,000 for the erection of suitable county buildings in case the county seat was located here. It was urged that this would be a saving of at least \$10,000 to the county, as that amount was imperatively needed to provide a jail at Wabasha, and the matter of issuing county bonds for that amount had already been under consideration by the county commissioners. The legality of the issue of \$20,000 in bonds, as proposed by Lake City, was submitted to the attorney-general Hon. W. Colville, who affirmed the legality of the issue. The bonds were duly issued and deposited with the county treasurer as the property of the county in case the removal should be effected. These bonds were to bear interest at the rate of ten per cent annually, and were made payable in five yearly installments of \$4,000 each. The press of the rival cities waxed heated in the contest which ensued, and no means were left untried to secure a possible victory. The balloting was something extraordinary, and the immense number of 9,480 votes were polled in a county not exceeding 13,500 population all told. The contest was carried into the courts and a hearing had before Judge Barber, of the third judicial district. Case was adjourned for months to take testimony, Judge Mitchell, of Winona, acting as referee, together with Counsellor Benedict, of Rochester. The conclusion finally was that 2,531 legal votes had been cast, of which number 1,457 had been cast in favor of Lake City, and 1,074 in favor of Wabasha. The case was carried to the supreme court and a decision rendered in January, 1871, reversing the judgment of the district court, on the ground that it requires a majority of the legal voters of the county and not a majority of the votes cast to effect the removal of the county seat, and in this manner the matter was disposed of three years and a half after the vote was taken.

The city suffered quite a loss on August 30 of this year, 1867, by the destruction of the planing-mill of J. W. Harding, which, with the warehouse of Amsbry & Fletcher, was totally destroyed by fire. The planing-mill was quite an extensive establishment, and the loss was probably not less than ten thousand dollars, upon which there was no insurance. The Lake City postoffice was made a money-order office September 9.

With the year 1868 the town reached its first decade as an organized part of the governmental system of the state. A comparison of the votes cast at the opening and also at the close of this period of ten years, shows that the increase was from 134 votes in 1858, to 512 in 1868. The area of the township, exclusive of town lots, in acres,  $17,408\frac{5}{12}$  acres, which was valued at \$100,602, or about \$5.77 per acre. The aggregate value of town lots in 1868, including buildings thereon, was \$180,639, making a total real estate valuation for the town of Lake City of \$290,241. The total value of the personal property of the town was rated at \$149,374, a little more than one-seventh of all the personal property of the county, which was returned at \$1,005,856, about \$75,500 less than the real property as scheduled by assessor. There was a decided increase in the amount of grain shipments from Lake City during this year as compared with 1867, but prices did not rule so high. A census taken in this year by Abner Tibbetts, the assessor, gave 3,031 as the population of the town of



Lake City, an estimate a little higher than the United States census returns of two years later seemed to warrant.

On July 9, 1869, a tornado, the first ever seen in Wabasha county within historic periods, struck the county, inflicting considerable damage in Mt. Pleasant Township, where three dwellings were destroyed and some stock killed, but no persons injured, with the exception of L. C. Carson's little girl, who was carried about 150 feet and considerably bruised.

During the year 1869 the question of voting aid to the reorganized St. Paul & Chicago Railway Co. was the all-absorbing theme. The city continued to show a gratifying increase in trade and improvements. The amount expended in buildings was \$109,000. The shipments of grain were much in excess of previous years; barley began to assume importance as an item of freight, and flour shipments largely increased also. The total grain business of the season amounted to about 850,000 bushels.

The year 1870 was that in which the United States census was taken, and the returns as filed by the enumerator gave the town of Lake City a total population of 2,608, of whom 2,117 were within what may be denominated the limits of the city. This was somewhat less than was expected, as from the assessor's returns of 1868 it was confidently believed that the population would not fall below three thousand.

The winter of 1869-70 a rivalry arose among the various drivers along the stage-route from La Crosse northward as to the quickest possible time between the terminus of the railroad, La Crosse, and Lake City. On Wednesday, February 9, one of the up-stages left La Crosse at 7:15 a. m., and making stoppages aggregating fifty-eight minutes at Winona, Minneiska and Wabasha, reached Lake City at 4:38 p. m., making the distance of eighty-eight miles in nine hours and twenty-three minutes, or, deducting stoppages, in eight hours and twenty-five minutes. It was not always, however, that the drivers were so fortunate. The south-bound stage on December 28 went through the ice about three miles above Read's Landing, drowning the wheel horses and losing express, mails and freight. Two passengers on board escaped, one dry-shod, one with an ice-bath in Pepin. The mails, express and freight, with the coach, were hooked up by a party of volunteers from Read's Landing, and the horses only were a total loss.

This year, 1870, witnessed the organization of the First National bank, and the completion of the Methodist Episcopal church so far as to enable the society to occupy the basement, which they did, on December 18. The expenditures for buildings during the year footed up \$88,125. It is within bounds to say that of wheat (and the equivalent in flour), barley, oats and corn, the actual shipments from the wharves here were in excess of 1,300,000 bushels, the wheat shipped alone amounting to 861,000 bushels. On June 3, 1871, the Patrons of Husbandry organized a grange in Lake City, and steps were taken to consolidate the work of the grange throughout the county, so as to secure some practical results.

This year was rendered memorable by the completion of the railway to this place, and the arrival of the long-expected locomotive. The tracklayers crossed the county-line from the north on Tuesday, July 11, and by nightfall the rails were laid half-way through town. On July 25, regular trains were put on between Lake City and St. Paul, and the road at the south was rapidly extending itself up the river. Work on the depot here was being rapidly pushed, the only regret on the part of the people being that its location was so far from the business portion of the city. The first through train for Winona came down on Wednesday, September 6; the following day regular trips commenced over the road, and it was no longer possible to say the upper river towns were out of the world six months of the year. On Friday, October 13, the United States mails were brought in on the trains, and so closed the old era of stages and steamboats as mail transports for Lake City. The new order of things was



brought about by the personal attention of Congressman Averill, who gave a day of his time in Washington to matters and secured the benefits of railway mails without the usual delay. During the same year the public library was organized and a free reading room in Richardson's block, on Center street, being opened about the middle of November.

Elevators were erected during the fall and winter along the railroad track, and a decided impetus was given to business, already flourishing, by the advent of railway communication. Other things seemed also to have come in with the railway, which were not so acceptable. As previously mentioned, Lake City wheat buyers had long before established the policy of paying as high prices for grain as the market would possibly justify. In order, therefore, to compete with the buyers in this market, shippers at other points were obliged reluctantly to follow their lead. At last the speculators concluded to manipulate the market at this point. All the large wheat-buying houses were interested in the scheme, and also the Davidson and the Diamond Jo line of steamers. An arrangement was effected with the Lake City warehousemen by which a uniform price of twenty-five cents below the Milwaukee quotations should be pooled. The monopoly extended wherever the river and railway lines extended, and as the freight was only twelve cents, commissions one cent, elevator charges one cent, and cost of buying three cents—at which there was a good profit—the cost of wheat here was justly within 17 cents of the Milwaukee quotations, a clear gain beyond legitimate trade profits of eight cents per bushel, or a dead loss of that amount to the wheat raisers of the state. Controlling as they did the whole wheat purchases of the market, the transportation lines forbid all warehousemen from paying more than the dictated price, from buying any wheat or shipping on his own account, or from receiving into the warehouse grain which had been purchased above the stipulated price. The large wheat merchants of the centralized markets and the transportation companies enforced, or attempted to enforce, their measures, by making noncompliance a ground of expulsion from the market, and set their own spies, with power to enter a warehouseman's office and examine his books, as a special police to enforce these regulations. The reputable wheat merchants of the city had entered very reluctantly into the arrangement at the outset, and only acquiesced under protest, to see how matters would turn out, not clearly seeing the depth of the business to which they were asked to commit themselves. As soon as they understood the true inwardness of the matter the merchants and press of the city opened upon the combination, and an agitation was begun by which the ring was completely "busted," and a return to honorable competition effected. The "ring" lasted about three weeks.

The improvements for the year 1871 were largely in excess of all previous years, and some of them of a very costly and substantial character. Their value aggregated \$150,000. One of the most important public improvements was the widening of Pearl street, now Lyon avenue, from a width of seventy to that of ninety feet. This work was the liberal donation of W. H. Lyon, of New York, who had extensive property interests in the city, and has always been liberal in devising for the little city by the lake. What property he did not own he purchased from High street to the lake, and setting the buildings back the required distance, opened a street ninety feet in width. Purchasing some blocks about the depot, also, he meditated the widening of the entire street from the lake to the city limits, but was temporarily prevented by the owners of some property along the streets. The city, however, in 1873, took the matter in hand, condemned the lots that jutted out into the street (of which there were only three), and gave the city a beautiful avenue of the uniform width of ninety feet throughout its entire length.

Early in 1867 the question of formally organizing as a city was discussed, and meetings held to consider the question. The matter was finally disposed of in a meeting of the citizens held at Williamson's hall, on the evening of



Saturday, January 19, 1867. The objection to the existing order of affairs was urged, on the ground that as now administered, the town authorities lacked the power properly to administer the affairs of a community like this, and corporate powers had become a necessity. To this it was answered that the power in the hands of the supervisors was ample, and only needed to be exercised. Also that if more legislation was needed it could be obtained, but that it was unadvisable to saddle the town with the burdens of maintaining a corporate existence. The test question, as submitted, was that a city charter be drawn up, and the proposition was negatived by a very decided majority. The meeting instructed the supervisors to rigidly enforce such by-laws and ordinances as were already in existence, and a committee was chosen to draw up amendments to the then existing regulations, increasing the power of the town supervisors so as to include the various subjects afterward specified in the legislative act of March 9, next ensuing. Matters remained in this state so far as the exercise of governmental powers was concerned, until the formal incorporation of the city—although one more attempt to incorporate was made, which led to no definite result. By act of legislature of 1870, it was provided that any community, within any specified district, numbering not less than 2,000 souls, and not more than 15,000, might, upon filing with the judge of probate for the county within which such district was located, a petition for incorporation signed by not less than two-thirds of the legal voters of said district, become thereby incorporated, and it was made the duty of the judges of probate, before whom such petition should come, to order an election for the purpose of filling the various offices set forth in the charter as petitioned for. Such petition so signed by 322 legal voters residing within a certain described district (substantially the corporate limits of the present city of Lake City), came before A. Z. Putnam, judge of probate for the county of Wabasha, on May 15, 1871. The judge gave notice of election to be held July 1, 1871, for the purpose of filling the various offices, and designated the place of holding such elections. Caucuses were held, and a full ticket nominated, but owing to opposition on the part of some, and a general distrust of the legality of such an incorporation, the polls were never opened, and the election passed. The friends of the measure were not satisfied with the disposition of the case, and C. N. Sterry secured the opinion of Hon. Thos. Wilson, of the city of Winona, and also of Messrs. Bigelow, Flandrau & Clark, of St. Paul, as to the constitutionality or otherwise of the city charter. The opinions in both cases sustained the action of the citizens as legal, and the incorporation as a valid act. The opinion of the St. Paul attorneys was also to the effect that failure to hold the election in no case vacated or dissolved the corporation. The recourse as contained in the opinion, was to re-petition for a designated day of election, or apply to the legislature to appoint a day. The former was not done, and instead of the latter, an act of incorporation was duly passed at the next session of the legislature in the winter of 1871-72, in accordance with which Lake City was incorporated as a city, and the long-vexed question finally settled.

The new corporation retained the old name "Lake City," and the city limits were materially enlarged, extending west from the lake shore, along the line separating Wabasha and Goodhue counties, a distance of one and a half miles, thence south one and one-half miles, thence east two and one-half miles to the lake shore, thence northwesterly along the irregular shore line to the boundary of the county on the north. The landed area of the city thus embraced about three and one-quarter sections of land; and there was not far from the same area, as its boundaries were legally described, that were covered by the waters of the lake. The city as thus limited was divided into wards, as follows: All that part of said territory lying and being westward of a line beginning in the southern boundary of said territorial limits at a point twenty-seven and one-half [rods] west of the center of section 8, in T. 111 N., of R. 12:



W., thence along the middle of the public road north to a point where a line running through the center of Pearl street in the plotted town of Lake City continued southwestward will intersect the same; thence northwestwardly by said line running through middle of Pearl street and the continuation thereof to Greenwood avenue, thence through the alley between blocks E and F in said town of Lake City, thence northerly to the northern boundary of said territorial limits, shall constitute the first ward. All that part of said territorial limits lying and being eastward of said described lines constitute the second ward. The error in this description is in making Pearl street run northwesterly—should be northeasterly. The division of the city into wards may at present be practically stated to be by a line running through the center of Lyon avenue and extending from the southern limits of the city to the lake. This does not differ materially from the division as expressed in the act.

The charter also provided for the election or appointment of the various city officers, defining their duties, specifying the length of their terms of office, and providing for their remuneration by salary or fees. It defined the general powers of the council and board of alderman in all matters concerning the general well-being, peace, healthfulness, good conduct and safety of the city.

By the same act of incorporation it was provided that "all that part of the town of Lake City, under this act, shall constitute and be a town by the name of 'Lake,' with all the authorities, rights and powers of towns under the laws of this state."

Section 11 of chapter 8 of the charter authorized and empowered Asa B. Doughty, Merrell Dwelle and Carlos Clement to appoint three discreet and judicious persons in each ward to act as judges of the election to be held on the first Tuesday of April, 1872; and also to locate and provide a place in each ward for holding the election. March 30, 1872, under call previously published a union caucus for the nomination of city officers, irrespective of political parties, was held at the opera house, and a ticket put in nomination. The ward caucuses were held after the general caucus, one at the opera house and one at the Washington street school building. The caucus was numerously attended, and the proceedings were of a character to show a deep interest on the part of the best citizens that a city government of approved ability should be chosen. The nominations were made, and on the following Tuesday, April 2, 1872, the polls were opened for the first charter election for the city of Lake City. The balloting resulted in the choice of the following officials: Mayor, Joel Fletcher; recorder, M. R. Merrell; treasurer, W. A. Doe; aldermen, first ward, J. C. Bartlett and M. A. Baldwin; aldermen, second ward, G. M. Dwelle and J. Manning; justices of the peace, Geo. F. Hatch and W. J. Jacobs; constables, L. E. Thorp and Oliver Young. The total vote cast was 529. The vote in the town of Lake (the election in March having gone by default, that the city and town elections might be held on the same day and all confusions avoided) was 76, making a total vote in city and town of 605, an increase of 97 over the vote polled at the presidential election in 1868, and an increase of 66 over the state election of the previous fall. The ratio of five inhabitants to one vote would thus give Lake City at the time of incorporation a population of 2645. It was generally conceded that the city officers-elect were as good timber for the new city government as could have been selected, and the result was hailed by the citizens as an omen of a good administration of city affairs.

The first informal meeting of the officers-elect was held on April 6, and an adjournment made to the evening of the 9th, at which time the members of the council were all present and took their respective oaths of office. F. M. Wilson, was appointed city attorney, and J. W. Matthews street commissioner. At the meeting of council held on the 28th inst., Elijah Stout, who had run Mr. Fletcher a good race for mayor, was chosen assessor by a unanimous vote. The committee on settlement between the city and the town of Lake reported,



and they were instructed to draw up an agreement to be signed by the proper officers, to perfect settlement. This was accordingly done, and the settlement made. By the terms of this agreement all moneys on hand, whether in hands of town or city treasurer, were to be divided between the city and town, according to the assessed valuation of property in each, and all unpaid accounts were to be paid by each in the same proportion. The assessed valuation of city property was found to be \$536,787; of town property, \$102,000; the money standing to the credit of the former town of Lake City, after all outstanding orders were paid, amounted to \$1,932.60. Of this sum the town received \$337.13 and the city \$1,595.47. The committee on city ordinances performed their work as expeditiously as possible, and presented the results of their work to the council before the close of the month.

One of the most important ordinances passed May 4, 1872, provided for the creation of fire limits, and establishing regulations for the erection of buildings within such limits. On December 21 following, an ordinance providing a market for the sale of hay, straw and wood within the city, and for weighing and measuring the same, was adopted. The fire limits included all of blocks one, two and three, blocks nine to sixteen inclusive, and twenty-three to twenty-six inclusive. All buildings within the limits were to be of fire-proof material, but some portions of this territory were exempted from a rigid construction of this ordinance, at the discretion of the council. This limit included practically that portion of the city enclosed between Chestnut, Park, High and Dwelle streets.

Down to the date of its incorporation in 1872 Lake City had suffered comparatively little by fires. On December 9, 1870, the old grain warehouse on the Point, technically known as the Armstrong warehouse, and at the time of its destruction owned by Bartlett & Smith, was burned with most of its contents; and on April 20, 1872, Bessey & Burdett's wheat warehouse was burned, the building, on which there was no insurance, being a total loss.

After this came the fire of January 28, 1873, which started in the cellar of Glines & Gould, druggists on Main street, and before it was controlled had caused a total loss of \$35,000, of which about one-third was covered by insurance. Then on March 12, 1875, came the fire which destroyed the Boston elevator, located on the north side of town. It had been erected in 1873 by a company of Boston capitalists, was thoroughly constructed and equipped with the best machinery, and was the most conspicuous building on the town site.

Two weeks later, on March 25, 1875, fire started in a wooden building at the corner of Franklin and Center streets, and destroyed several small buildings, causing a loss of about \$10,000. It was with difficulty prevented from reaching the hotels on Lake avenue. These fires, following so soon one after another, awakened public attention to the need of an efficient fire department, and its speedy organization was the result.

The fire department had been organized a little over three and a half years when it was called to battle with the most destructive fire that had heretofore visited the city, and whose ravages were not stayed (owing to an unfortunate circumstance over which the department had no control) until the First National Bank building, a brick structure, corner of Center and Washington streets, and seven wooden buildings were laid in ashes, involving a total loss of nearly \$75,000, about one-third of which was covered by insurance. It was about one o'clock on the morning of November 16, 1879, that flames were seen in the back part of J. E. Favrow's store. The alarm was given and the fire department was promptly on hand, and, in addition, a telegraph despatch for aid was sent to Red Wing, but, owing to train delays, help from that source did not reach here until about four o'clock, by which time the work of destruction was as complete as it was likely to be. The new arrivals did good service in cooling off safes and quenching the smouldering flames,



for which the exhausted firemen of the city were deeply grateful. The fire gained headway through a whole hour, in which the fire engine was rendered absolutely useless by the supply pipe becoming choked with sand. About three years before the fire, after the other fire cisterns had been completed, it was deemed expedient to provide a water supply near the corner of Center street and Lake avenue, which would save about 150 yards of hose connection with the lake in case of fire in the eastern or southeastern part of the city. The well was dug in the low ground east of Neal & Johns, to a point considerably below that to which the water would rise through the sand in case of extreme low water in the lake. This well was not cemented on the bottom, and the suction of the steamer's supply pipe drew the sand into this pipe and into the engine pumps, completely choking the engine, in fact packing it solid with sand and rendering it absolutely useless. During the hour spent in getting ready for even such work as in its damaged condition it could perform, the fire made fearful headway, sweeping round the corner of Washington street, and making clean work of everything between the bank corner and the heavy stone and brickwork of Patton & Son's store. The fire on Center street was not so destructive, and its progress was checked by the pail brigade and Babcock extinguishers so effectively that only one wooden building on the street adjoining the bank was burned down. Others were damaged, and stocks of goods so materially injured as to involve almost total loss; but the progress of the fire was stayed without spreading through the block to Main street. With the exception of the bank building, the structures consumed were wooden, and old city landmarks, representing the early palatial stores of pioneer days; and in their destruction some old relics were forever swept out of existence, the original Masonic and Odd-Fellows' halls among others. The First National Bank block was the pride of the city. It was erected in 1873 on the south corner of Center and Washington streets (the streets all running diagonally to points of compass), and was constructed of Milwaukee white pressed brick, with iron columns, galvanized iron cornice, white draped stone caps, sills and trimmings, and plate-glass windows. The office was elegantly finished with solid black-walnut counters, desks, doors and casings, and was a model bank office. On Center and Washington streets were stores owned by the cashier and president, respectively, L. S. Van Vleet and L. H. Gerrard. J. E. Favrow, who suffered so seriously in the fire of 1872, in the adjoining block on the south, was by this time completely wiped out. The Sentinel office was entirely consumed, with all it contained; and so was the law office of Stocker & Matchan, over the bank, with its library, including account books and old journals. The stores destroyed were those of Van Vleet & Gerrard, Peter Beck, H. C. Bronco, S. Lindgreen, Mrs. A. W. Ditmars, D. C. Corwin, H. L. Halsey and George Patton, each valued at from \$1,200 to \$2,000. The heaviest losers in merchandise and stock were J. E. Favrow & Co., H. D. Brown, printer, Stocker & Matchan, Henry Miller, druggist, E. M. Everson, and S. Lindgreen. The total loss on buildings was about \$27,000, on stocks, \$48,000. On the former there was an insurance of \$8,715, and on the latter of \$17,745. The morning light of Monday had scarcely broken before the debris was being cleared away and preparations made for rebuilding and resuming trade.

This fire, though serious, was completely overshadowed by the great calamity of 1882, ever after referred to as "the great fire," which originated in an unused room of the old Sexton House on the Point. The fire was discovered at about two o'clock on the morning of Saturday, April 22, 1882. The wind was blowing a fierce gale from the lake, and carrying the flames into the old wooden rookeries in that part of town, fanning them into a roaring conflagration, and sweeping the cinders, shingles and burning material of all kinds right over the western and norther parts of the town, threatening the whole with speedy destruction. The workmen in Neal & John's establishment saved that manufactory by almost superhuman exertions, and thus prevented



the spread of the flames across the block to the west. The wagonshops of Curtis & Richardson Bros. & Co., John Dobner's blacksmith-shop, and the buildings on the east side of Washington, between Center and Marion, were consumed. Crossing Washington street, Sam Lindgreen's saloon, and the other brick buildings on that side of the block from the First National Bank to Patton's block, were soon in flames, which swept across Center street, and down both sides of Center to Main, leaving nothing standing in its track. Leaping across Main street, it swallowed up the fine brick stores of C. P. Young & Bro.; and on the north side of Center street, carrying destruction with it as far as the building of the Lake City Furniture Company, which was destroyed. The buildings on the lower side of Center street, between Washington and Main streets, were all destroyed except the lower corner room of the Lake City Bank building, a fine three-story structure, in which was the postoffice. The fire had quickly spread over the entire block bounded by Main, Center, Washington and Lyon streets; the fierce gale blowing the flames in a due westerly course diagonally through the block and across the corner of Lyon and Main streets to the Commercial hotel, which, having been destroyed, the destruction was stayed in that quarter for lack of material. The efforts of the firemen were principally directed to saving the block bounded by Center, Washington, Lyon and Franklin streets, in which was the Merchants' hotel, an immense three-story wooden structure. The burning of this block would in all probability have involved the destruction of the entire northwestern portion of the city, as far down as Center point. The firemen made a stand at Richardson's corner, where their brick building interposed some obstruction to the progress of the flames through the block; and the citizens, who had turned out en masse to save the town, were, many of them, so intent on fighting fire at its very center that their own properties were consumed before they were aware of the fact. Another stand was made against the progress of the flames at the wooden saloon on the Main street side of the National Bank Building block, as, had that building gone, nothing could have saved the block across the street, and its destruction would have involved the center of the residence portion of the city, including all the church buildings. The efforts in both cases were finally successful, and the fire was finally stayed after sweeping through six of the best business blocks of the city. There were about fifty buildings burned, involving a loss of property in structures and contents, as nearly as can be ascertained, of at least \$370,000, upon which there was an insurance of about \$178,000. Of this amount, however, a considerable proportion was insurance on damaged goods, and partially destroyed or damaged buildings; so that the loss may be fairly said to have been about one-third covered by insurance.

Thus, within a period of less than ten years, destructive fires had three times ravaged the business center of the city, involving a loss of over half a million dollars in a small town of about 2,600 population. The grit of the little city was fully apparent in this calamity. The common council met immediately, and, refusing all applications for permits to erect temporary wooden structures, extended the fire limits to the lake shore, upon which the fire had originated. Monday evening, following the destruction of Saturday, an enthusiastic meeting of the board of trade was held, and it was apparent that the enterprise and courage of the city was by no means in ashes, if the buildings of the city were. Capt. Seeley, the city postmaster, on the alarm of fire, left his own household goods to destruction, and used all his exertions to save the mails and records of his office, in which he was successful, all letters, papers and office records being safely removed. The First National Bank officials were at work immediately, and resumed business in a building they put up on a corner across Center street from their own property. Work upon the bank corner was immediately begun, and the structure was soon ready for occupancy. The Lake City Bank moved into the reading-room in the Merchants' Hotel, and resumed. The Masonic fraternity lost all their furniture, including their records, the



latter a serious loss. The destruction of the valuable museum of Dr. Estes was much to be deplored. Its collection had been the work of a lifetime; and, besides containing curiosities of very rare and valuable character, many of them impossible to duplicate, the Doctor's manuscripts and notes, the work of years, and which it was his intention to have given to the public in permanent form, were all destroyed, leaving him, in his own pathetic words, "Not a scrap of my life work; not a scrap, sir." This was a loss not to be computed in dollars and cents.

**Fire Department.**—As already mentioned, it was the fire of March 25, 1875, occurring only two weeks after that of the twelfth of the same month, which made the citizens of Lake City realize the need of a fire department, and the matter was at once taken up energetically. In response to a numerously signed petition, the council took the necessary action, appointing a committee to negotiate for the purchase of a steam fire-engine, hose, and other equipment, and accordingly a Silsby patent rotary steam fire-engine was purchased, with two hose carts, 1,500 feet of hose, and other apparatus. An ordinance was also passed providing for the organization of a fire department to consist of one engine company of forty men, two hose companies and a hook and ladder company, to consist of thirty men each. The companies met and perfected their organization on May 1, 1875, the roster as yet being incomplete; but other members were soon enlisted. The engine arrived May 14, and was given a satisfactory test May 22, delegations from Red Wing, Winona, and other places, being present. In the same month the council appropriated the sum of \$450 for the purchase of a lot on the southeast side of Center street, between Oak and High streets, upon which to erect an engine-house, which was built at a cost of \$630. It measured 20 by 50 feet, the front thirty feet being used as an engine-room, and the rear twenty feet for a council-room. Steps were also taken for the building of cisterns in convenient locations for water supply. A committee that visited La Crosse for the purpose of securing information, reported in favor of brick cisterns, and accordingly three were constructed at a cost of \$630; one with a capacity of 1,000 barrels at the intersection of Center and High streets, and two others, each with a capacity of 500 barrels, one of which was at the intersection of Garden and Dwelle streets, and the other at the intersection of Oak and Doughty streets. A sad accident occurred during the excavation at the corner of Garden and Dwelle streets, caused by the caving in of the walls, by which two men, A. H. Sandford and Benjamin Kramer, lost their lives. A well at the rear of Neal & John's manufactory, on Center street, was also utilized as a reservoir, and together with the others furnished the city with a good water supply. Improvements were subsequently made to the engine-house and hose-tower, and other apparatus provided, including hook and ladder trucks, Babcock extinguishers and firebuckets.

The department is now supplied with two hose carts, from 6,000 to 8,000 feet of hose, a hook and ladder, and pyrene extinguishers, no engine being needed on account of the 80-pound pressure supplied by the water plant. The department consists of from 30 to 35 volunteer members, who receive no salary, but are paid one dollar for reporting, and one dollar an hour during active duty at fires. This plan of recompense, however, does not apply to the chief and assistant chief, who receive a small nominal salary, the difference lying chiefly in the manner of recompense than in the amount received. The fire alarm system is automatic. On the discovery of a fire the central telephone office is notified, and the operator at once presses a fire button which rings an alarm in the home and place of business of each member of the company, notifying them to repair at once to the fire station, where information as to the location of the fire has already been received from the central office. By the same contrivance the power plant is also notified. The system has proved efficient, and no big fires have occurred since 1882, except that which destroyed the Tennant & Hoyt grist mill in 1906.



Lake Pepin has exacted a large toll of victims. On the evening of December 13, 1878, Porter B. Guernsey, the fifteen-year-old son of a well known and respected citizen, A. T. Guernsey, and Florence Wyckoff, daughter of Rev. Samuel Wyckoff, pastor of the Presbyterian church of this city, were drowned by falling through an air hole in the ice near the foot of High street, while skating. No one witnessed their death, and their bodies were not recovered until the next day.

On June 12, 1882, Frank Collins was drowned while out in a skiff with two other men and a boy, their boat being cut down by the steamer Centennial, for which the officers of the steamer were blamed, the pilot being convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree.

A gale which occurred on Sunday, April 22, 1883, caused the death of John Matter and his newly married wife, residents of Pepin, by overturning their boat. They had come to Lake City for some needed articles, and were on their way back when the accident occurred.

A more recent tragedy was enacted on the lake Wednesday evening, January 15, 1913, when Oscar Youngress, aged 33 years, and his sister Alice, aged 19, were drowned while crossing the ice with a single horse and cutter while en route to this city from their parents' home at Bogus Creek, Wisconsin. Mr. Youngress, who had resided in Lake City for a number of years, left a wife and two small children.

The situation of Lake City, on the shore of the lake, at some distance from its outlet or inlet, has always had the effect of curtailing its water-trade, especially with the Wisconsin shore. Repeated attempts have been made to overcome this disadvantage by the establishment of ferries, or by subsidizing them to a certain extent, but with only moderate success, as such ferries have always had to compete with the little coasting steamers plying on the lake, which were not confined to any regular route, but could touch at any points affording opportunities for trade or passenger transit. Passenger transit across the lake, more or less irregular, was afforded in the closing years of the Civil War by Capt. J. Hull, of Maiden Rock, Wis., who ran a small sailboat, the Daisy, between Maiden Rock and Lake City. In 1866 Capt. John Doughty, of this place, made trips to different points on both sides of the lake with a sailboat called the Union, which was capable of carrying 75 passengers, and its operation was continued for three years. It was then transformed into a steamer and operated for one year, when its trips were discontinued owing to lack of profit. Another boat, the May Queen, was also operated on this part of the lake that season.

In 1870 Capt. Nelson put a regular ferry on the lake between Lake City and Stockholm, Wis. This was a sailboat and was for passenger traffic exclusively. In 1872 William B. Lutz and W. W. Scott received a charter, conferring on them, for ten years, the exclusive right of keeping and maintaining a ferry across the Mississippi River at the town of Lake City. In 1873 the time of the franchise was extended to fifteen years, and thirty months allowed for the time of opening the ferry. A similar franchise owned by parties on the Wisconsin shore, was purchased by Lutz & Scott, but the opening of the ferry was postponed by the illness of Mr. Lutz, and in due time the franchise expired by limitation, nothing having been done.

In the meanwhile a proposition was made to the city to purchase the franchises on both sides of the river, or lake, and to give a bonus, or loan, to some responsible parties who should undertake, under bonds, to establish and maintain a ferry for a given number of years, and state legislation was secured in February, 1873, in the form of the ferry-bond act, which enabled the city to act in the matter, but the proposition was decisively turned down by the voters, April 1, 1873. It was next proposed to raise \$800 by the issue of shares of \$25 each, for the purchase of the Lutz & Scott charter, which had not yet expired, but the purchase was not affected, and in September negotiations



were entered into with Capt. Murphy for the permanent establishment of a steam ferry. Owing to dilatory action this matter fell through, Capt. Murphy making other arrangements.

In the meanwhile Capt. O. N. Murray, of the little steamer Pepin, had been making regular trips around the lake, his steamer being sometimes accompanied by a barge on which merchandise and passengers were transported. It was not, however, wholly suited to the purpose, and in May, 1874, a subscription was started to raise funds for the building of a better boat, which was finally completed at a cost of about \$500, and on Thursday, July 16, the first regular trip was made in the city's own boat, with the mayor and common council in attendance. The city barge had a capacity of six teams and as many passengers as could crowd on. Trips were made at 9 A. M. and at 4 P. M., the rest of Capt. Murray's time being devoted to his regular coasting trips around the lake.

In the spring of 1875, the Lutz & Scott charter having expired the previous fall, the franchise for a ferry was granted to the city by special act of legislature, with power to operate or lease at their discretion. During 1875 and 1876 the exclusive right to the ferry charter was granted to Capt. Murray, who maintained communication between Lake City and the Wisconsin shore.

Early in the spring of 1877, a joint stock company, named the Lake City Ferry and Transportation Company, was organized with a capital of \$10,000, for the purpose of operating a ferry such as would maintain regular communication between this point and the Wisconsin shores. By the terms of the ordinance not less than six trips a day were to be made during the season of navigation. The company was to meet all expenses, but the city was to furnish them the use of the barge and confer the rights of the franchise without charge. The rate of tolls or charges showed that oxen were still being used to some extent. The company was to own and continue to own the franchise on the Wisconsin shore as a condition precedent to the continuation by the city of the grant of its charter. The ferry company was composed of responsible business men of Lake City, the first board of directors being: John J. Doughty, H. Gillett, J. C. Stout, William Campbell, W. J. Hahn and H. D. Stocker. The steamer Clipper, a staunch built craft, but with poor engines, was purchased by Capt. Raney for \$1,500, was repaired, and a cabin built, at an expense of about \$2,000, and operated during the season of 1877 with the old engines. During the following winter she was supplied with new engines, and other improvements, at a further cost of \$3,000. This latter amount was refunded the company by special vote of the citizens, this being the only subsidy ever received. The cost of maintenance, and competence by coasting steamers, however, caused the enterprise to be unprofitable, and after four seasons, the directors concluded to wind up the affairs of the company and dispose of the assets, which was done. The steamer was put up at auction and bid in by Messrs. Stout & Post, two of the stockholders, for an amount equal to the company's liabilities,—about \$1,800. The franchise on the Wisconsin shore had been placed in the hands of the city council, and also a mortgage upon the boats of the company, as security to the city that the company would maintain the ferry a given number of years. This was done in 1878, when the bonus of three thousand dollars was given by the city. These franchises were to be the property of Messrs. Post & Stout, so long as they fulfilled the obligations of the old ferry company, but were retained by the city, which released the mortgage upon the boat, at the request of the directors. Messrs. Post & Stout kept the ferry running during the season of 1881, and that fall closed out, having only added to their former losses by the attempt to continue the line in operation. They started their boat for Stillwater when the ferry season closed, intending to dispose of her there, but on the way up the river the pilot ran her on the government pier near Prescott, and there she remained during the winter. The following spring she was left to break up, her machinery taken



out, and when high water came she floated off and the hull sunk some distance down stream.

In the spring of 1882, Murray & Lenhart resumed trips between the Wisconsin and Minnesota shores; and Murray dying, the firm became Lenhart & Collins, who operated the steamer Pepin and barge from Lake City to Maiden Rock, Pepin and Stockholm, on the Wisconsin shores, making semi-weekly trips to Read's Landing, in this county. Within a short time L. Y. Lenhart became the proprietor, and has been connected with the ferry operation almost continuously ever since, either alone or with a partner. He is now in partnership with Elmer N. Holstrom, of Maiden Rock, Wis., who was previously employed by him for two years as engineer. Under the firm name of Lenhart & Holstrom, they operate the steamer Verona, which was built by Mr. Lenhart in 1895. During the season they make four trips daily between Lake City and Stockholm, Wis.

**St. Mary's Church, Lake City.**—Our forbearers who built St. Mary's were not rich in wordly goods; indeed many of them came from a people who, because of their faith "were made outlaws, their homes destroyed, their estates forfeited, and their liberties and life itself (made) the price they had to pay for their refusal to conform to the new religion"; from a people "disfranchised, disqualified from acquiring or holding property, compelled to remain illiterate, fined, imprisoned, and many of them tortured with every refinement of cruelty"; many came from a land where in times past "Bishops and priests were classed as felons, a price set on their heads and 'where' an incredible number of both clergy and people who adhered loyally to the religion of their forefathers were either put to the sword or hanged, drawn and quartered"; where "the methods adopted to crush (the faithful) were cruel in the extreme, their cattle taken from them, their houses leveled and their harvests burned"; where "men, women and even children were indiscriminately shot down or hanged by a brutal soldiery, and the remnant which escaped found shelter in the neighboring bogs and mountains, where they were hunted to death as outlaws or perished from starvation"; they came from a land where, "lest the survivors in whom the native instinct of industry and enterprise still prevailed, should draw any measure of prosperity to themselves and away from England, the legislation was steadily directed towards the restraint, if not the absolute ruin, of all (her) trade and commerce"; where "embargoes were laid on the exportation.....of cattle, meat and other food products, and the exportation of wool and woolen goods to any country other than England (which manufactured a supply sufficient for home consumption) was forbidden under heavy penalties" (Catholic Encyclopedia: Irish in the United States). The offspring of such trials and persecutions, with learning, the professions, trades, commerce, even property denied them, what wonder that many of our fathers were a lowly people. But though broken, they were not crushed, and they came led by a hope which centuries of persecution had failed to stifle—the hope, to wit: of tolerance and liberty.

Not all, indeed, of St. Mary's founders were offspring of that persecuted land, but one and all were children of peoples who sighed and hoped for that sweet thing we call liberty. The others were children of a land where the people were excluded from all political action, where there was no freedom of the press, no trial by jury, no right of organization, no elective parliament. Meanwhile America was prospering by reason of the blessings that were denied men in the Fatherland; its broad acres called to them, offering them a congenial home, with the outcome that while for the period 1821-1902 the number of immigrants from Ireland was 3,944,269, or 19.3 per cent of the total immigration into the States, the number from Germany for the same period was 5,098,005, or 24.9 per cent, of the total immigration.

Our forebears, then, one and all, had suffered persecution; some religious persecution, the others political; and the only justice the one and the other



had ever experienced had come to them at the hands of the church; and not only justice, but comfort and consolation in their long years of trial. Coming, then, in quest of liberty, our fathers brought with them an intense devotion to the church; and wherever they went, whether to the thickly populated cities of the East, or to the sparsely settled prairies of the West, their first care, invariably, was the erection of a church. America's 16,000 Catholic churches are nearly all the outcome of persecution abroad.

And what was true of the Irish and German immigrants elsewhere throughout the States was true of such as came to Lake City. The first family came in 1856; three families came in 1857; more in 1858, and now the Catholic Church of Lake City was beginning. The Catholic Directory now for the first time listed Lake City, saying that it was "occasionally visited," and it is still well remembered by a few that in 1858 Fathers Ravoux and Oster came and stayed two days. The Catholic Directory for the next year speaks of Lake City as "regularly visited from Wabashaw," and Father Tissot's Baptism and Marriage Records show that in 1859 he visited Lake City on May 8, July 10, September 11 and November 13. On these visits nine infants were baptized and one couple married. In 1860 Father Tissot came again four times, on March 11, July 8, September 9 and November 11, and again nine infants were baptized during the year.

Meanwhile Mass was celebrated in a private house, but the thought of a church must have been uppermost in the minds of those early settlers, for as early as 1863, less than five years after Father Tissot began to visit Lake City, two lots, six and seven, of block 137, were purchased as a site for the future church. The lots were those abutting to the south on Center street, to the west on Seventh street, and the day of purchase was November 9, 1863.

This was the church's first foothold in Lake City, but the parish evidently was not yet strong enough to proceed with the building of the church, for Mass continued to be celebrated in a private house until early in the year 1866. In January of that year, Mr. H. F. Williamson, responding to an agitation for a public hall in the city, fitted the second story of his large store into an auditorium, 100 by 30 feet in size. Here now Mass was celebrated on the appointed days until the completion of the church. On April 14 of that year the Lake City Leader had in its news column, "We learn that a Catholic church is being erected in the back part of town, not far from the Baptist Church. It is to be a very fine building, calculated to add to the appearance of Lake City." On March 23 of the next year the same newspaper printed: "The Catholic Church at this place numbers a large congregation among its members, and we learn that it is soon to be under the charge of a Priest who will be a resident of Lake City. It at present has the services of a reverend (sic) living at Wabashaw. The society here is a new one, and last season built a church worth about \$1,800. The church was built on the lots purchased in 1863. It was designed by Father Tissot, and fronted on Center street."

The rumor which the "Leader" printed that the church was soon to be under charge of a Priest who will be a resident of Lake City," came true in the person of Father Hermon. Coming to Lake City in 1869, he found Block 54, on which the church now stands, vacant save for a single house at the corner of Prairie street and Lyon avenue. Father Hermon secured this house and remodeled it for his residence. This placed the church three blocks away, and, be it that Father Hermon wished to be closer to the church, or that he did not fancy having the Catholic Church "on the back part of town," on May 22, 1873, he purchased in the name of the church, lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and the southeast one-third of lots 2 and 9. This gave the church all of the block on which the church now stands, except lots 1 and 10, which run along Lyon avenue, and one-third of lots 2 and 9. This was in May, 1873, and in the Wabashaw County Sentinel of September 17, 1873, we read, "The Society of St. Mary have removed



their house of worship to the lot adjoining the residence of Rev. Father Hermon on the corner of Prairie street and Lyon avenue."

In 1875 Father Quinn came, and to him we owe the present St. Mary's Church. On January 30, 1877, he purchased for the church lot 10 and two-thirds of lot 9, and now St. Mary's had a site. The Lake City Leader of May 19, 1877, speaks thus of what was to come: "The new church building of the Catholic Society of this city, the construction of which has now been commenced in good earnest, is to be an imposing structure. Beautifully situated at the corner of Lyon avenue (upon which it is to front) and Garden street, it will be in size, 53 by 120 feet, all told, the main building itself being 53 by 100. The first, or basement story, will be of stone, the second of brick. The tower will be 16 feet square on the ground, running to a height of 55 feet of brick, and 100 feet still higher of wood, making a tower 155 feet in height to the cross by which it will be surmounted. It is expected, we understand, that the corner-stone of this grand edifice will be laid on July 4, next, the stone and brick work to be completed by September 1, and the whole structure completed by the first of December. William B. Lutz has the contract for the stone and brick work, and also the plastering. Mr. Robert White has the contract for the carpenter work and painting. These gentlemen are masters in their respective departments of construction and we are sure they will, jointly, complete this fine building in a way that will make it an ornament to the city, and one that will in every way accord with the hopes and desires of our Catholic friends."

July 4 saw the laying of the corner-stone and Lake City, likely, has seen few if any such days. Two Catholic societies came from Wabasha: St. Patrick's Irish Benevolent Society, and the Father Matthew Total Abstinence Society; from Highland came another, Father Matthew Total Abstinence; from Oakwood, another; from West Albany, another; and these with the Father Matthew Total Abstinence Society of Lake City made six societies, with banners and regalia, marching to the strains of music furnished by several brass bands. In the morning they marched from the Academy of Music to the old church, where Father O'Gorman of Rochester celebrated Mass. In the afternoon they met Bishop Grace at the railway station and escorted him to the church grounds where he officiated and Father O'Gorman preached the sermon.

And just as the foundation was ready for the laying of the corner-stone on July 4, so was the building ready for divine service in December. Speaking of Christmas, 1877, the Lake City Leader of December 29 said: "At the new Catholic Church edifice, at 6 o'clock in the morning, the first Mass was held in that beautiful structure, participated in by a large congregation. Had the roads been in a passable condition, no doubt there would have been enough present on this notable occasion to fill the immense edifice in every part. Services were held at three different hours during the day. The church is indeed a handsome building, both inside and out; the frescoing is among the most chaste and artistic we have ever seen and is carried out with the most perfect harmony throughout all parts of the building, and is perfectly pleasing to the eye. The Rev. Mr. Quinn can certainly feel proud of his church building; and the members of that society can feel well assured that they possess a house of worship second to none in the West in point of artistic elegance."

But Father Quinn was not to be contented with mere material greatness; he knew well that the church building, after all, was but an object lesson of what the Catholic should be; to him the edifice was but a means to an end. St. Mary's at the corner of Lyon avenue and Garden street might be second to none in the West, but of what avail was that unless his people in soul and character were second to none anywhere? To ensure that his people would be such, he established that other agency which invariably accompanies the church, viz., a school. Thus did he have a perfect parish equipment. In August, 1877, when it was evident that the old church would soon be vacated



and could be used as a school building, he caused to come from Illinois Rev. Mother Liguori and four companions in the Sisterhood. He converted his own residence into a convent for the sisters, while he retired to a cottage on Center street. The old church was turned into a parochial school where the common school branches were taught, while in the convent was conducted a boarding-school for girls, with instruction in academical work and music. The parish was now complete and some notion of its size can be obtained from the records, which show that the number of baptisms in 1875 was thirty-five; in 1876 fifty; in 1877, fifty; in 1878, forty. Indeed, so large was the congregation in those days that it sometimes happened that part of the congregation could assist at Mass only by standing at the doors outside the church.

Such was St. Mary's, Lake City, in 1878, but that year saw the beginning of the colonization movement in Minnesota—a movement which caused a decrease in size in St. Mary's congregation. Homes in well organized parishes, on fertile soil, were to be had on the western prairies at a cost of less than ten dollars per acre with ten years' time to pay. The movement built up the western part of the state, but some parishes in the eastern part it almost depleted. In St. Mary's, in the year 1879, the baptisms fell to thirty-six; in 1880 to twenty-four; in 1881 to thirteen, and until 1888 twelve or thirteen baptisms per year is what the records show. The church at its completion was far from being paid for; Father Quinn's health did not permit him to make the necessary collections, and when at the close of 1881 he was obliged on account of his health to resign the parish, an enormous debt lay upon the congregation—a debt all the heavier by reason of the decreased number of parishioners. It was to retrench the expenses of the parish that in 1884 the parochial school was discontinued. A History of Wabasha County issued in 1885 said of St. Mary's, Lake City, "The services are at present conducted by supplying priests from St. Paul. The number of contributing families in the parish is about thirty-five, but the number of families actually connected with the parish is much larger."

In these few years St. Mary's, from being one of the most important parishes of the diocese, had come to be one of the least important; the pastor appointed was always in line for promotion; pastors came and went as larger places opened. When in 1898 Father McAuliffe was ordained, St. Mary's was not considered too important to be his first charge. At his coming the main altar in the church was the one built for the old church thirty-one years earlier; the only furniture in the church were the pews; the frescoing had faded; Father Hermon's remodeled house still did service for a rectory; and the debt still hung over the congregation. In the years that have elapsed between Father McAuliffe's coming in 1898 and his going in 1911, a commodious residence was built, the church appointed with altars, statues, lights, and frescoed in the best possible taste—best of all, the debt which had harassed the parish for more than thirty years, was paid. And the progress that begun under Father McAuliffe has continued under his successors, so that again can be said with truth what was said when the first Mass was celebrated in St. Mary's, viz., the members of the congregation "can feel well assured that they possess a house of worship second to none in the West in point of artistic elegance." And all this material elegance is but the outward expression of the piety and devotion to God that reigns in the hearts of St. Mary's children. Again is St. Mary's in the very forefront of the parishes of the diocese, numbering as it does in round numbers one hundred and fifty families.

And here we close our history of St. Mary's in this year of grace 1920. It is the Second Spring. St. Mary's was not and St. Mary's was; again St. Mary's was not and now St. Mary's is once again. It is the Second Spring. May the promises of this second spring not go the way that went those of the first; rather, may we see realized all the good projects that were fondled by Father Quinn.

(Rev.) John A. Cummiskey.



**Presbyterian.**—The first Presbyterian church of Lake City was organized December 31, 1856, with Rev. Silas Hazlett as acting pastor, and B. C. Baldwin, A. V. Sigler and Mrs. Hazlett as members. B. C. Baldwin and A. V. Sigler were elected elders. For nearly a year and a half the church held union services with the Congregationalists, in the old Congregational church erected by the contributions of both societies, the pastors of the two churches alternating in the services. In 1858 the Presbyterian church rented what was then known as Skinner's Hall. This was in the third story of a store-building situated on lot 2, block 14, fronting on Washington street. In 1859 the church erected a church edifice on lots 4 and 5, block 58, which had been presented to the society by Mr. Samuel Doughty. The church building, which originally cost \$900, was removed in 1863 to High street, just north of Lyon avenue, and in 1876 was repaired and enlarged at an additional cost of \$850. In 1862 the trustees purchased lot 1, block 56, and erected a parsonage at a cost of \$800, and in 1878 it was enlarged and repaired at a further cost of \$650. Among Mr. Hazlett's successors in the pastorate were the Revs. Porter H. Snow, William Speer, D. D., John Valeen, John A. Annin, Hugh W. Todd, John L. Howell, James M. Pryse, W. J. Weber, Samuel Wyckoff and J. W. Ray. The Sunday school was organized January 1, 1860, with A. T. Guernsey as superintendent, who held the office 18 years. For nearly 30 years the church took an active part in the religious life of Lake City. In February, 1888, the building was destroyed by fire, and in the following August, the organization voted to unite with the First Congregational Church, owing to the depletion in its membership on account of removals and deaths.

**First Congregational Church.**—This was the first church society organized in Lake City, the date of organization being August 8, 1856. Lake City had then about 300 inhabitants. In the following year, 1857, the society erected a church edifice, in which they worshipped until 1879, when it was destroyed by fire. The present building was dedicated May 4, 1881. About 1892 Rev. E. B. Chase became the pastor, and served eight or nine years. He was followed by Rev. W. E. Warren, who served nine years. His successor was Rev. W. C. A. Wallar, who was pastor from 1911 to 1916. The Rev. Albert Wilson, D. D., occupied the pulpit from 1916 to 1918, and was succeeded in 1919 by the present pastor, Rev. William A. Mulder. From time to time the building has been repaired and improved, some improvements being made the present year, 1920. The present membership of the church is about 225, while there is a flourishing Sunday school having an enrollment of about the same size. There is a fine Young Peoples' Society, a Ladies' Aid, and a Young Ladies' Club of about forty members. A vested choir is maintained, which, with the aid of a pipe organ, has raised the musical part of the service to a high standard.

**First Baptist Church.**—Baptist meetings were held by Rev. Edgar Cady from July, 1857, to December of the same year, when the First Baptist Church of Lake City was organized, December 13, 1857, with 21 constituent members. Up to 1871 there had been 225 additions to the membership, by baptism or by letter and experience, and the church had then 64 members, the others being accounted for by death or removals. The Baptists worshipped first in Gaylord's Hall, the present church edifice being erected in 1859, on Garden street, near Chestnut. Since that time it has been rebuilt, and is a neat frame structure, having an auditorium with a seating capacity of 120 to 125. In addition there is a large room used for the Sunday school, so contrived that the partition separating it from the auditorium can be opened up on special occasions, and the two rooms made practically with a total seating capacity of 175 to 200. A new heating plant was installed in January, 1920, and the church has been provided with electric lights. After the Rev. Edgar Cady, the Rev. A. P. Graves became pastor, in August, 1859; Rev. G. W. Freeman, September, 1862; Rev. G. W. Fuller, April, 1865; Rev. H. H. Beach, June, 1872; Rev. E. C. Anderson, November, 1876; Rev. A. Whitman, December, 1880; Rev.



W. K. Dennis, October, 1882. A full list of the pastors has not been obtained. The more recent ones have been: Rev. Mr. Gambel, Rev. (Miss) Alma Reiber, Rev. G. M. Caldwell, and Rev. J. D. Wylie, who came to the church in July, 1919, and is still serving. The church has now about 60 members, the greater proportion of whom are active workers. This represents a noticeable increase in recent years. Since Mr. Wylie took charge the Sunday school has doubled its membership, having now about 75 class members, and is in a very thriving condition. It is a branch of the church that has always been maintained, though at times the church services have been suspended. The Young Peoples' Society and the Ladies' Aid are doing active work, as also is the Gospel Team, a men's organization which works in various parts of the city, holding prayer and gospel meetings in private residences and other places, wherever there is a favorable opportunity for doing religious work.

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church.**—The first Protestant Episcopal services were held in Lake City in the fall of 1857, at which time Bishop Kemper visited the place, preached and baptized. Subsequent visits were made by the Bishop, by the Rev. E. R. Wells, of Red Wing, and in 1860 by Bishop H. B. Whipple. In 1862 the parish was formally received into union with the council, but no vestry was formed until December, 1864. On the fourteenth of that month a meeting was held at the residence of Rev. John W. Shatzel, parish missionary, at which time the vestry was constituted by the election of the following: Wardens, Lyman H. Buck, senior; John A. Junkin, junior; vestrymen, William E. Perkins, John T. Graves, P. R. Hardt, Thomas Gibbs, B. L. Goodrich, William Marsh, Asa Doughty and Matthias Dilley. L. H. Buck was elected secretary of the vestry, and R. S. Goodrich, treasurer. Services were first held in a small schoolroom owned by Mrs. O. E. Walters, and afterward in a hall under the Masonic lodge, from which the congregation removed in the spring of 1864 to Harley's Hall. Here they remained until the completion of the church building in the summer of 1866. Preparations for building were begun in 1863, the sum of \$1,600 was raised or pledged, and a church lot 75 by 100 feet purchased. The church was completed early in the summer of 1866, and the opening services were held July 1, but the parish being in debt for the building to the amount of \$800, the consecration was deferred until Wednesday, January 16, 1867. The entire cost was about \$3,500, and of this sum \$2,000 was raised by the society at home, the rest being contributions from abroad.

By 1901 the need for a new and better building became imperative. Accordingly, on November 8, a parish meeting was called to consider the advisability of building a new church, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Perkins, Murray and Johns was appointed to solicit subscriptions for that purpose. By December 20 the committee reported \$6,100 pledged, and with this encouragement plans were procured and bids asked for. It was discovered that the lowest price for which a stone church could be built that would meet the needs of the parish was \$6,900, and the senior warden and vestry were therefore authorized to incur a debt of \$1,000, and work was begun. The building committee of the new church was composed of W. E. Murray (chairman), W. R. Murray, H. F. Johns, N. C. Pike, and the rector, Rev. Charles H. Plummer. W. J. Longcor, of Red Wing, was the contractor. Early in 1902 the old building was torn down to make way for the new. The latter, when completed, proved to be a handsome structure and an ornament to the city. It stands on high ground on the south side of Oak street, and facing the public square. It is of Gothic architecture, constructed of Frontenac stone, laid with the broken ashlar effect, and pointed with cement a shade darker than the stone. The nave of the church is 32 by 52 feet, arranged with two rows of pews, with a broad center aisle, and a narrow aisle on either side next the walls. There are 28 pews, each of which will comfortably seat seven people, and about 40 chairs may be placed in the open space back of the pews. The chancel is 24 by 24 feet, and in addition to the usual fittings, has six chair stalls that will accom-



moderate 40 singers. An alcove to the left holds a small pipe organ. The choir room is to the right of the chancel, and is 12 by 18 feet in size. The tower is of the same material as the church, and is 48 feet in height and eight feet square, and forms the entrance to the church. The old guild room has been retained and refitted, but it no longer opens from the chancel. The side walls of the building are 13 feet high, and the ridge-pole 45 feet from the ground. The furnishing throughout is of light antique oak, except the ceiling, which conforms to the shape of the roof, and is of Georgia pine in natural finish. The building has been provided with electric fixtures and is heated by two furnaces. The windows are all of stained glass, and are memorial, having been donated by prominent members of the congregation in memory of departed relatives. Among the donors are: Mr. and Mrs. William E. Perkins, H. D. Brown and family, of St. Paul, the children of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Adams, and Mrs. Alice Fox, of Lake City, Mrs. Jennie Ege of St. Paul, Sidney Cross, Mrs. G. C. Stoub, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Young, the rector, Rev. Charles H. Plummer, Mrs. C. G. Hoyt, Mrs. K. A. Winslow, Mrs. Jean Coons, Mrs. I. H. Steele, Mrs. C. H. Salisbury, Mrs. Julia P. Martin and F. H. Stauff. The Ladies' Guild presented the altar and furnished the carpet for the church. The reredos is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Perkins, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Emerson. The choir stalls were presented by the Young Peoples' Guild. The brass eagle lectern was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sterrett by their children, and the beautiful bible used with it in memory of their grandchildren. The oak pulpit was presented by E. J. Lange. The total cost of the church and furnishings was \$10,750, which includes \$1,680 in gifts and memorials. The total amount pledged was \$7,300. In addition \$190 was raised by Sidney Perkins for the sidewalk and curb. The last service was held in the old church on the first Sunday after Easter, 1902, and on December 14, 1902, the first communion service in the new edifice was conducted by the Rt. Rev. Samuel E. Edsall, bishop of the diocese of Minnesota, assisted by the rector, Rev. Charles H. Plummer. The succession of rectors at St. Mark's has been as follows: Rev. C. P. Dorset, 1861-1862; Rev. J. W. Shatzel, 1863-66; Rev. C. W. Kelley, 1867; Rev. J. C. Adams, 1868-72; Rev. C. H. Plummer, December, 1872, to May, 1884; Rev. William Gardam, May, 1884, to September, 1887; Rev. J. Wayne Jones, June, 1888, to December, 1890; Rev. Edwin Johnson, April, 1891, to April, 1894; Rev. Charles H. Plummer, May, 1894, to December, 1907; Rev. Carroll L. Bates, December, 1907, to March, 1914; Rev. Richard Read, September, 1914, to March, 1917; Rev. Charles H. Plummer, March, 1917, to July, 1917; Ernest B. Mounsey, October, 1917, to the present time. Sunday services are held at St. Mark's both morning and evening. The societies connected with the church are the Ladies' Guild, the Women's Auxiliary, the Junior (Ladies') Guild, and the Boy Scouts. There is a chorus choir including men, women, boys and girls, and the musical part of the service is carefully rehearsed. All branches of the church work are in a flourishing condition, and include a well attended Sunday school.

**First Methodist Episcopal Church.**—The first society of Episcopal Methodists in Lake City was established in 1857, though for two or three years previous to that year there was quite a strong class of Methodists at Florence, three miles above the city. In September, 1857, the Rev. S. Salisbury visited the Wabasha and Lake City circuit, and preached one sermon in the Congregational Church here, which was the first sermon ever preached in Lake City by an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. In the same fall a class of seven, including Dr. D. C. Estes, was organized by Rev. C. Hobart, and preaching established in Skinner's Hall, a small room with but limited seating capacity, and lighted with tallow candles. The class formed by Dr. Hobart consisted of D. C. Estes, M. E. Estes, Seth Tisdale, Augusta Dollar, Jane Terrill, Eliza Baily and Bidwell Redley. D. C. Estes was appointed leader. Seth Tisdale was a local preacher, and was the first to engage in special revival



services. The first Methodist Sunday school in the county was organized by Dr. Estes, beginning with four teachers and 16 scholars. Rev. T. Quigley held the first quarterly conference in the fall of 1857, in which year the Rev. J. Gurley was pastor. In the spring of 1858 the congregation moved to a vacant storeroom on Main street, and during that year the pulpit had to be supplied, as Mr. Gurley, who lived in Pepin, Wis., found difficulty in crossing the lake. In 1859, the Rev. E. R. Lathrop was appointed pastor, and under his administration the society prospered. His successor was Rev. V. Hiscock, during whose pastorate many were added to the church. He was followed in 1861 by Rev. C. T. Bowdish. In 1862 the society was supplied. The pastor from 1863 to September, 1866, was Rev. G. W. T. Gossard, and while he was serving, the society rented a vacant store building on upper Washington street. In 1868 Rev. D. Tice was appointed pastor, and during his first year the corner-stone of the church edifice was laid on the site at the corner of Chestnut and Oak streets. The church was enclosed and the basement occupied by the society in 1869. Mr. Tice's immediate successors in the pulpit were: Rev. H. Goodsell, 1870-71; Rev. C. M. Heard, 1872-74; Rev. J. Door, 1875. The audience room was finished and dedicated in 1876, and the dedicatory services held July 9, that year, the Rev. Mr. McChesney preaching the dedicatory sermon. From 1878 to 1880 Rev. G. W. T. Wright was pastor for the second term. He was succeeded in 1881 by Rev. T. B. Killiam. During 1882 and 1883 the entire debt, which had for years been a burden to the society, was paid, and the society at that time had a membership of ninety persons, and a good Sunday school. The next six pastors, with their terms of service, were: Rev. L. H. Shumate, three years; Rev. John Pemberton, one year; Rev. S. N. McAdoo, one year; Rev. E. R. Lathrop, one year; Rev. J. S. White, two years; Rev. John Watson, five years. During Mr. Watson's pastorate improvements were made on the building and a furnace put in, at a total cost of about \$500. A parsonage was purchased about 1894. Under the pastorate of Rev. W. C. Rice, who came to the church in October, 1897, and remained five years, improvements were made on the parsonage to the extent of about \$150, and the sum of \$580 was spent on the church building, electric lights being installed, new stained glass windows put in, and the exterior of the building painted. Through the kindness of Edwin Wrigley five hundred dollars was paid to the church in advance of a bequest, and \$360 of this fund used in partitioning and finishing the lower room into a church parlor, class rooms and a kitchen, the work being completed in May, 1902. Brother Rice's pastorate came in a troubled period of the church's life, and was blessed in that he was able to restore confidence to the church and community, and prevent a division in a time of great peril to the society. Much of the later prosperity of the church must be attributed to his wise and efficient service. He was succeeded by Rev. Charles H. Stevenson, who, after three months' service, resigned, and Rev. D. Paul Rader was secured. His pastorate was suddenly brought to a close by an affection of the eyes, and in June, 1903, Rev. J. C. Craig became pastor. During this period there was a quiet and steady development of the work; repairs and improvements in the walks and parsonage were made, the membership increased, the organizations were strengthened, and a spirit of hope and faith prevailed. In October, 1905, Rev. William C. Lee became pastor. While he remained there were improvements made in the parsonage, and removals were compensated for by new members. The annual benevolence was the largest in the history of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Watterson donated car plush cushions for the church pews, at a cost of \$300. At the next annual conference the Rev. William C. Lee was returned to Lake City for another conference year. More improvements were made in the church's property in 1906-07. On Wednesday and Thursday, September 11-12, 1907, the church celebrated its semi-centennial by special services, several of its former pastors being present, and the occasion was a notable and enjoyable one for all who were present. The Rev. John



Pemberton, who succeeded Mr. Lee as pastor, served five years, and during his charge further improvements were made in the property to help the work of the young people and the Sunday school. When he left here he retired from the active ministry. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Charles H. Miller, who, when he came found a membership of 125, which has been increased to 325. A part of this large accession was drawn from the German Methodist Episcopal Church, which, during Mr. Miller's second year, its pastor then being Rev. E. P. Christ, discontinued its own services and united with the English M. E. Church. The society is now one of the strongest and most prosperous in the city.

The German M. E. Congregation of Lake City Circuit of the German M. E. Church formerly comprised the congregation in the city and three congregations in the surrounding country, representing (about 20 years ago) a total membership of about 170. Services in the city were held in the First M. E. Church once in two weeks on Sunday afternoon. The other congregations were in West Albany Township, Zumbro Falls and Belvidere, Goodhue County. Rev. H. E. Young took charge of the circuit about 1894, and served five or six years, being succeeded by Rev. Daniel Pfaff, who served one year. In the fall of 1901 Rev. Charles H. Miller became the pastor, this being his first pastorate. It lasted five years, and during that time he built a church at Zumbro Falls and another at Oak Center. In the fall of 1906 the Rev. F. A. Meier Bachtol succeeded Mr. Miller and was pastor for six years. He was followed by the Rev. E. P. Christ, during whose pastorate, in 1913, the church discontinued its work in Lake City, the congregation uniting with that of the First M. E. Church. The German M. E. Circuit was then worked from Zumbro Falls, where Rev. Herman Nedtwig resided, and had charge for two years.

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church** was organized June 11, 1888. Of the twelve members who signed the constitution on that day, there are still living and in membership with the church F. C. Lange, Jno. Ehlers, Jacob Ehlers and Louis Bade. Until the autumn of 1889 the church was served by Rev. W. Fettinger, of West Albany. The first resident pastor, Rev. William Haar, served from March, 1890, to September, 1900. His successor was the present pastor, Rev. William Franzmann, who assumed charge in February, 1901. A parsonage was built in 1892, and the first church bought and dedicated in July, 1893. A schoolhouse was built in 1898, and a regular parochial school established in 1909. The teachers have been as follows: Mr. H. Gurgel, 1909-11; Gerold Zarwell, 1911-12; Agnes Haar, 1912-14; Helen Vick, 1914-15; Josephine Vick, 1915-16; Tillie Uecker, 1916-18.

The present fine brick church was dedicated May 26, 1918, and is one of the largest and handsomest structures in Lake City. It measures 46x102 feet and has a seating capacity of about 700. The trustees at the time of its erection were: John Danckwart, president; John Bremer, secretary; John J. Vollmers, treasurer. Deacons: John Defang and F. C. Lange; organist since 1914, Miss Laurine Vollmers; janitor, Christ Roschen. Building committee, John Roschen, president, John Danckwart, F. C. Lange, John Bremer, John Vollmers, C. W. Pruter, F. Wittenberg, John D. Breuer, John Hink, John Tomforde, Claus Sprick, John Defang; architect, Julius F. Dreger, of Oshkosh, Wis.; contractor, Alb. J. Gutzke, of La Crosse, Wis.

The congregation contains 850 souls, including 600 communicant members, and over 200 families. There is a good choir of about thirty voices, under the direction of Prof. John L. Fenwick. A ladies' aid society was organized in 1895, and has about fifty members. There is also an English branch of the Ladies' Aid, and the Lutheran Ladies' Work Club connected with the church. Twenty-three sons of the church entered the United States service during the recent world war, one of whom died in camp. The others, some of whom were across seas, returned safely home.

**The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church** of Lake City was organized October 10, 1869, at convocation called for that purpose, the Rev. P. Sjoblom,



of Red Wing, presiding. The original number of communicants was 45, prominent among whom were L. A. Hockanson, G. F. Edholm, A. E. Edholm, P. Sundberg and G. Erickson. Services were conducted for a time by two lay preachers, L. A. Hockanson and A. G. Westlong, and the congregation was ministered to at intervals by preachers from surrounding towns in Minnesota and Wisconsin. In 1879 the Rev. S. A. Lindholm became the pastor, and he also ministered to churches at Millville and Minneiska. Until 1875 the congregation worshiped sometimes in a small hall, at other times in the Presbyterian or Baptist churches of the city. In 1875 a small church, 26 by 40 feet, was built on Sixth street, three blocks northwest of Lyon avenue, and neatly furnished, and on the opposite side of the street a parsonage was erected in 1881. The Sunday school was organized in 1873, and some years later a ladies' society was organized for church aid work and missionary purposes. In 1895 the Rev. S. G. Swenson became pastor and served until 1903. His successors have been as follows: Rev. S. L. Wilson, 1903-1909; Rev. O. J. Nelson, 1909-1913; Rev. J. H. Nelson, 1913-1920; Rev. E. O. Valberg, 1920, who is the present pastor. The church now contains 207 communicant members and 70 children, in all 277 souls. The Ladies' Aid Society, the Girls' Society and the Young Peoples' Society meet once a month and do splendid work. Sunday school is held, besides regular morning and evening services every Sunday, and about 30 children are enrolled in the Sunday school. The work is now carried on half in English and half in Swedish.

**Swedish Salem Congregational Church** was organized in May, 1885, and the church was erected the same year on Seventh, near Doughty street. Within twelve years the congregation had increased to about 175 members, with a Sunday school of 40, besides which there were two ladies' societies and a young peoples' organization. The Rev. Emil A. Anderson was then pastor. The church had regular pastors until the fall of 1919, when the Rev. Haggquist, who had served for about seven or eight years, retired on account of advanced age. Since then the church has been served by the Rev. A. Carlson, of Stockholm, Wis., who occupies the pulpit about once every two weeks.

**Seventh Day Adventist Church.**—The society was organized about 1877, and a frame church, located on High street, near Adams, built in 1893, by which time the society had about fifty members. Services were held regularly every Saturday at 11 a. m., Sunday school preceding. By 1897 the number of members had diminished to about 35. In time it diminished still more until there were but one or two families left, and about three years ago the building was sold to the Conference, which sold it to private persons, and it is now used as a dwelling-house. The few remaining members meet Saturdays at the home of Peter Halgren, on High street, for Bible study.

**The Christian Science Church** has an organization in Lake City, holding meetings in the city hall at 10:45 a. m., Sundays, and 8:00 p. m., Wednesdays.

The care for the dead reflects to a large extent the higher sentiments of a community and its religious culture. In this sad, yet pleasing duty, the people of Lake City have not been negligent, a fact evinced by the several beautiful cemeteries in the environs of the city. Mrs. John Boody, the first person who died in Lake City, and her child, were buried at Muncie Lake. Several others were buried near the location occupied by the Jewell Nursery. All of these were afterward removed to a plot of ground set apart by Abner Dwelle about the year 1861. Its location, upon the southeast side of the city, separated from the high bluffs only by a ravine, toward which it slopes on one side, is pleasant and convenient, and the taste of its proprietor was exhibited in the regularity of its streets and the planting of numerous evergreens. The gradual placing of fine monuments, and the planting of additional trees and shrubbery, have materially added to its beauty.

**St. Mary's Cemetery Association.**—The cemetery controlled by this association is located on Lyon avenue, across the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul



Railway tracks, and has a history almost as long as that of the city. The first person buried there was Michael O'Loughlin, about 1868, at which time, or soon after, two and a half acres of the ground was purchased by St. Mary's parish for cemetery purposes. That area sufficed for half a century, but in 1919, the parish, making use of a donation of \$1,000 by James Kane, bought two and a half acres more, thus giving the cemetery an area of five acres. The present association has had charge for the last ten years and has established more systematic and orderly rules of government than formerly existed. The cemetery fund has been kept separate from others connected with the parish, and the grounds have been improved and beautified by the planting of trees and shrubbery, the erection of fences, and in various other ways. Since the burial of Michael O'Loughlin fifty years ago, between 700 and 800 interments have been made in the grounds. The officers of the association are: Rev. J. A. Commiskey, president; M. O. Kemp, secretary; Miss Emily Lutz, who succeeded her mother, Mrs. M. Lutz, treasurer. The directors are: Mrs. Mary McCahill, Mrs. J. R. McCormick and Frank M. O'Loughlin.

The Lakewood Cemetery Association was organized in August, 1887, under a special charter, by J. G. Richardson, G. F. Benson, J. L. Underwood, C. A. Hubbard, L. H. Buck, A. T. Guernsey, J. W. Kennedy, W. J. Richardson, H. A. Young and J. C. Doughty. The ground purchased, consisting of 40 acres, located on Lakewood avenue on the south side of the city, belonged to Abner Dwelle, from whom the association purchased it, and had been used many years for burial purposes, the first interment having taken place there about the year 1865. The cemetery has been greatly improved and now contains many fine monuments. The association does not exist for money-making purposes, every dollar paid in being used for labor and the betterment of the cemetery, the trustees giving their time. Up to February 1, 1910, there had been 1,682 known burials in Lakewood, and since that date to February 1, 1920, 510, making a total of 2,192. Each year in June a day is set apart which is known as "Flower Day," when the graves are decorated and union services held, the pastor and choirs of the different churches alternating in the ceremonies. The idea has proved very popular, and the plan has been adopted in many communities throughout the country. The officers of the association elected February 23, 1920, were: President, H. A. Young; vice-president, J. M. Underwood; secretary, N. C. Pike; assistant secretary, Ed L. Burghardt; treasurer, W. A. Hubbard; superintendent, H. F. Johns. The president appointed the following committees: On finance: H. G. Lange, M. L. Collins and H. F. Johns; on grounds: W. A. Hubbard, John Nordine and William Howatt.

St. John's Lutheran Cemetery Association was founded about twenty years ago by the trustees of the church, who secured four acres of land for cemetery purposes between Lyon avenue and Center street, about a quarter of a mile beyond the C., M. & St. P. railroad tracks. At the same time the Swedish Lutherans bought four acres adjoining, and by mutual consent it was made a joint cemetery, but operated independently by the two associations, each having one side, and the two sides being separated by a road running through the center. The grounds are well kept, intersected with convenient walks, and adorned with trees and shrubbery. The expenses are met by the sale of lots and by donations. Of the St. John's Association the present officers are: J. W. Burfeind, president; J. J. Vollmers, secretary, and John Roschen, treasurer.

Journalistic enterprise began in Lake City at an early date, a paper called the Tribune being established here probably about the middle fifties by a man whose name is not now remembered. It seems to have had a short existence, as it had been defunct for some time when, in 1859, it was resurrected by Elijah Porter, a native of Westfield, Massachusetts, then 48 years old, who had had some journalistic experience in his native town. After devoting his editorial talent to the Tribune for two years, Mr. Porter gave it up to accept the office of postmaster, and disposed of his outfit to John McBride, who



established a weekly four-page Republican paper called the Lake City Times. Mr. McBride, who was afterwards city justice here, had published a newspaper for several years in Guttenberg, Iowa. He conducted the Lake City Times from 1861 to 1865, when he sold out.

The successor of the Times was the Lake City Leader, the proprietors of which were T. H. Perkins and William J. McMaster. It was a four-page, seven-column paper, also Republican in its political complexion, the first issue appearing October 5, 1865. Five years later the Leader had to encounter the competition of a rival, as on October 12, 1870, there appeared the first issue of the Wabasha County Sentinel, a four-page, eight-column sheet, published by Hiram D. Brown. Newspaper enterprises were now on a more solid basis in Lake City, as both the Leader and Sentinel were conducted successfully for a number of years. In 1881 they were consolidated and issued under the name of "The Review" by Ben Northrop & Co., until September 12, 1882, when the Review was succeeded by the Lake City Graphic, published by Morris C. Russell and Herbert L. Smith, the latter a native of Vermont. The Graphic was shortly afterward sold to a stock company, Mr. Smith being placed in charge. Other changes soon took place. On October 8, 1883, the business passed into the hands of Smith & Messmer, Mr. Smith having associated with himself for its purchase, Mr. W. S. Messmer, who looked after the editorial department, while Mr. Smith was the active manager of the prosperous and rapidly growing business.

In the meanwhile Morris C. Russell, a native of Pennsylvania, and a man of rich pioneer experience, had become editor of the Lake City Sentinel. A speedy consolidation seems to have been effected, as the Lake City Graphic-Sentinel appeared about this time, or very shortly after the establishment of the Graphic. It was published by McKenny & Linnen, and later by H. L. Smith, and in 1892 was purchased by Arthur J. Meyers, a native of New York State, then 41 years old, who, before coming to Lake City, had for six years owned and published the Mazeppa (Minn.) Tribune. Largely self-educated, independent and fearless, Mr. Meyers conducted the paper as editor and publisher. It was issued every Thursday and took rank among the leading papers in this part of the state, Mr. Meyers continuing in charge until he sold out in 1907 to L. A. Goodrich, who consolidated it with the Republican under the caption of the Graphic-Republican.

The Lake City Republican was founded March 3, 1888, by John A. Leonard, who continued as its editor until his death in January, 1894. Thereupon Mrs. Leonard assumed the management and published the paper until the fall of that year, when it was sold to Kidd & Axtell. In December, 1895, it became the property of C. A. Van Vleck, who maintained the Republican as a first class newspaper, increased its popularity and enlarged its circulation. Mr. Van Vleck conducted the Republican from 1895 to 1910, when the Lake City Printing Co. was organized, with Leroy A. Goodrich, who had purchased the Lake City Graphic-Sentinel in 1907, as vice-president, Mr. Van Vleck becoming a member of the company. The Graphic-Sentinel and Republican were then merged into the Lake City Graphic-Republican, now published as a weekly, with L. A. Goodrich as editor, and having a circulation of 2,000. It is the only newspaper now published in Lake City and runs from eight to sixteen pages per issue, according to the demands. A first class job printing office is maintained in connection with the paper.

In June, 1914, Elmer R. Paterick established the Lake City Leader, the second paper of that name, which he operated until the spring of 1919 as an independent newspaper, having a circulation of about 1,200. He then sold the subscription list to the Lake City Printing Co., publishers of the Graphic-Republican.

It is not possible to prepare a full and connected history of the public schools of Lake City, owing to the destruction of the early records in the great



fire of 1882. It is probable that during the early period they did not form an integral part of the school system of the county, having been organized prior to the school system of the state. Moreover, they appear to have attained sufficient growth to have been included in an independent school district, before the public school system of the county took form. The schools here were originally of the character known as subscription schools, being supported by the voluntary subscriptions of the residents of the place.

The pioneer school in the little settlement, now Lake City, was opened by the Rev. Silas Hazlett, in November, 1856, and was taught in a frame building, the lower portion of which was used as a carpenter shop, at the east corner of the Academy of Music block. The number of pupils in attendance was about thirty, and the estimated population of the settlement at that time was three hundred. From this date, schools in Lake City were regularly taught somewhere. Gaylord's hall, near the present site of W. E. Perkin's livery stables, was subsequently opened for school purposes, and schools were taught at various places—now here, now there—for the next five years, the city having no school building of its own prior to 1861. In this year it was determined to build a suitable schoolhouse, and late in the fall the basement was finished, and school opened with Geo. T. Gibbs as the first teacher. This building was a commodious two-story frame, 40 by 60, with stone foundation and basement, located on Garden street. The basement only was completed in 1861, and in this school was held until the upper stories were finished and furnished in 1863, when the whole building was occupied for school purposes. It later did duty as the high-school building of Lake City.

In the meantime the citizens had made provision for a somewhat higher grade of scholarship than was contemplated in the common schools of that time and the Lake City Academy came into existence. This Academy building, also on Garden street, was largely erected by the private contributions of the citizens, with the evident intention of its becoming the property of the city, to be used as an academy for higher instruction. It was built for Mrs. C. W. Hackett, who opened a school or academy there and taught it for some years. The property subsequently passed into Mrs. Hackett's possession in some undefined way, and was sold. With the growth of the city, the accommodations of the wooden building erected in 1861 became totally inadequate to meet the wants of the city, and the erection of a new school building was determined upon.

By the legislative act of 1864, giving the settlement, now Lake City, all the rights and immunities of a corporate city without its responsibilities, a change was made in its government, and this was followed in 1865 by a change in the administration of school affairs. In the spring of this latter year a board of education was elected, of which Dr. Estes was clerk. This board determined upon the erection of a school building in the first ward, that would accommodate all the children of that ward below the grammar and high school grades, and thus draw into one building the scholars scattered in various places throughout the city, as rooms could be obtained. This is the building between Oak and Garden streets, known as the first ward schoolhouse. Its entire cost, including sidewalks, fencing and furniture, was about eleven thousand dollars. School was first opened in this building early in the winter of 1872-73, with James M. Martin and Misses Anna Montgomery and E. M. Burrett as teachers.

In 1883 the second ward schoolhouse, also a brick building, was erected, on the original school lot on Garden street, just a little southeast of the old building in which school had been opened in 1861. It was furnished in the latest style, well provided with all needed appliances, and cost a little in excess of the contract price, eight thousand dollars. The building was turned over to the school board on September 20, 1883.

For some years the buildings already mentioned proved adequate to the educational needs of the city, and the schools maintained a high standard, par-



ticularly the high school, which about 1881 became the banner high school of the state, the percentage of its pupils passing the examinations prescribed by the high school board of the state being greater than that of any other of the fifty high schools competing for the state appropriation. But the number of pupils increased with the growth in population, the introduction of new methods called for increased facilities, and by 1894 it was found necessary to construct a new building to be used as a high school. The contract was let to the Barnett & Record Co., of Minneapolis, at \$18,975, the total expense, including furnishings, being \$23,980.25. When completed the structure proved to be an ornament to the city and one of the finest and most convenient school buildings in the state. It was built on the north side of the old second ward brick schoolhouse, and is adjoined to it, making one building 90 by 140 feet in size, the new building, also of brick, measuring 90 by 100 feet. It is two stories high, with a roomy attic and basement, is well equipped with modern improvements, and contains 15 rooms, besides closets and wardrobes.

The city took pride in its new school and regarded its educational facilities as sufficient for many years to come. And, in fact, it was nineteen years before overcrowding made further building operations imperative. This need was declared by the Board of Education in January, 1913, and an appeal was issued to bond the district for \$20,000 for the purpose of building and equipping an addition to the high school, the bonds to cover a period of fifteen years, coming due in 1928. The conditions were very crowded. It had been necessary to add two grade teachers since January, 1912, and one grade had been housed in a high school recitation room from that time. The first and second grades in the Lincoln building were accommodated in one room separated by a temporary partition. The high school enrollment was 163, with also nine special pupils, while the seating capacity of the assembly room was 128. Extra pupils were obliged to share single seats with others, and sit at the reading-tables. The high school enrollment was rapidly growing. The enrollment in manual training classes ran as high as 27 boys, and there were only 20 benches, with no room for more. The superintendent's office had to be used for class purposes. One room was occupied by the normal department, the state paying the teacher and the expenses of operating. In 1912 nineteen girls took training in that department, of whom sixteen were teaching in 1913. The agricultural department also occupied a room, the state paying nearly all the expense. It was proposed to erect a new building of four additional grade rooms. At the election held January 31, the question was carried by a vote of 168 to 21, but a second election was made necessary owing to the fact that the local board decided to borrow money from the state, and when this is done it must be so stated in the election notice. Women took part in the election, the law permitting equal suffrage in school matters.

The new high school building was erected immediately contiguous to the older high school and united with it so as to form one building, including also the old school building erected in 1883. It was formally opened on Tuesday, March 10, 1914. The contract price of the building was \$21,100; the total cost with equipment, about \$31,000. Bonds of \$20,000 were voted in 1913, the money being borrowed from the state at four per cent interest, and covering a period of 20 years. It was proposed to bond another \$10,000 in the same manner, the question to be decided at an election to be held Tuesday, April 7, 1914, when a favorable vote was cast. The question seemed to excite little interest, however, as only 54 votes were cast, but the result was decisive, there being only two votes in opposition to the project. On the first floor of this last addition there are four class-rooms and two reading-rooms, the high school room being located on the second floor in the north end of the building. Within recent years some further improvements have been made. The six furnaces in that part of the high school building erected in 1894, which were formerly separate, are now combined into one furnace battery, under the



Smead system of heating ventilation. The last addition (of 1914) is heated by steam, and has a different system of ventilation, known as the Hackney ventilating system, the main features of which are two fans, one of which forces the fresh air in, while the other drives the foul air out. The old school building of 1883, now forming one building with the architectural divisions of the high school, has been remodeled, or readapted to new uses. It contained four rooms, two upstairs and two down. One of the downstairs rooms is now used for the agricultural class, and the other for a shower-bath for the students interested in athletics. The partition formerly dividing the two upper rooms has been taken out, so as to make one large room, which is used for a gymnasium. Around it a hanging gallery has been constructed for spectators. This room is also used for military drill work when bad weather prevents it from being held outdoors.

**Waterworks and Light Plant.**—The present water and light system of Lake City is the result of many years' development, through a process of experiment, and the elimination of worn out or unsatisfactory methods and machinery. For a number of years previous to 1893 a stand-pipe system was in use, the water being obtained from a well, and pumped by a steam-engine into an elevated wooden tank on top of the stand-pipe. This answered the purpose for awhile, but with the deterioration of the engine and the final collapse of the stand-pipe, a new system became necessary, and in 1894, during the mayoralty administration of Henry A. Young, a water plant was installed at a cost of \$30,000, operating through direct pressure. The water was pumped from a mammoth well by a Hysler pump. This pump, however, proving too expensive, was set aside and sold for junk, and a Fairbanks-Morse compound engine put in, having a daily capacity of 1,000,000 gallons. A Triplex pump was also installed as auxiliary. In 1897 there were four miles of mains and 49 fire hydrants, and in emergencies an additional water supply could be obtained from the lake.

In connection with this system, an electric light plant was installed in 1895, at a cost of \$12,000. It consisted of one machine of 220 volt direct current system, and one 75-arc machine; and over 1,000 incandescent lamps and 54 arcs were placed in operation. Power was furnished by a Ball & Wood compound engine, and two large boilers generated the steam for both plants. A neat and substantial power-house was erected on the lake shore.

A big step in advance had been made, but in time the direct pressure system proved unsatisfactory and expensive, and the power plant not adapted to the city's needs. It was proposed to construct a reservoir on the bluffs southwest of the city, and a pipe line, at an estimated outlay of \$30,000, and install a gravity system. A meeting of the citizens was held March 14, 1913, at the city hall, at which J. F. Druar, consulting engineer for the Oscar Clausen Engineering Co., of S. Paul, presented a detailed report containing the estimated cost of construction. More than one hundred representative citizens were present, the meeting being presided over by Mayor W. C. Squire. Other speakers, besides Mr. Druar, were J. Cole Doughty, chairman of the Water and Light Commission; E. R. Paterick, then city clerk, and A. Wagner, manager of the Menominie Power Company at Red Wing. A motion was passed unanimously that the council be instructed to proceed with the plan for the reservoir, and a special bond election was proposed, the city to borrow funds from the state, as in the case of the school building.

The Druar plan not being accepted, Louis P. Wolf, of St. Paul, was employed to construct the system. A cement reservoir of 500,000 gallon capacity was constructed on the bluffs, and connected by a 12-inch pipe with the water-main system down town, giving at the power station and pumping station an 80-pound gravity pressure. Valves were provided by which the reservoir supply can be shut off at any time to permit the cleaning or repairing of the reservoir, during which time the power is supplied by engines. After the



reservoir and pipe line were completed, the plant ceased to generate electricity and entered into a contract with the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light and Power Company, which now supplies the power. The water and light plants are combined in one, deriving their power from the same source, but using different machinery. The amount used is registered at the power station, and when the main current is shut off, power is supplied by a local unit, which can, if necessary, reinforce the main line.

Since foreign power was installed the system has been rebuilt and put into three separate and distinct circuits—one for each of the two wards of the residence district, and one for the down town district. The latter includes Lyon avenue, as the main street leading to the depot, and is operated all night. In the two residence districts the power is turned off between 11 and 12 o'clock p. m. There are now 82 fire hydrants. Gas is not used in the city, but there are many electric stoves which obtain their supply of electricity from the power-line service.

The plant has been very successful for the last six years, and has not increased the rates charged before the war. The reservoir and pipe line cost \$31,000, and the pipe lines have since been extended to an expense of between \$20,000 and \$25,000. All the old water bonds, to the amount of \$21,000, have been paid off, and a sinking fund of over \$25,000 created to take care of repairs and improvements. The present value of the combined plant is estimated at about \$200,000. The plant is operated under a "home rule" charter by a separate commission, composed of three members and a clerk, the city council having no direct control, but acting in an advisory capacity.

The present city hall was built in 1899 at an approximate cost of \$16,000, which was paid out of a sinking fund previously set apart for that purpose. Considerable repairs have since been made on the building, the present value of which is estimated at \$24,000. It provides convenient quarters for the city offices and fire department, and is also occupied by the public library.

The first public library in Lake City was established in 1871, under the control of an organization known as the Lake City Library Association, with the following officers and trustees: John Fletcher, president; Mrs. C. A. Jewell, vice-president; W. J. McMaster, secretary; C. W. Hackett, treasurer; L. H. Garrard, C. A. Wood, Mrs. M. Hulett, Mrs. H. F. Williamson, Mrs. A. T. Guernsey, trustees. Mrs. Henry Selover, then Miss Emma Doughty, was the first librarian.

About the middle of November, 1871, the reading-room was opened in the Richardson block on Center street. It was a free reading-room, well furnished, and supplied with the leading dailies of the Northwest, and also Washington and New York papers. Foreign and home periodicals were also furnished, and the doors were opened every evening at 6 p. m.

Near the middle of December the first installment of books, consisting of 270 volumes, arrived. Later many more were added, some by donation. The association also instituted a course of lectures, including such lecturers as Wendell Phillips, Ignatius Donnelly, A. M. Griswold, Dillon O'Brien, Hon. Moses Cheney and others.

The library was ably supported by an organization called the Dramatic Union, a company of home talent. The library filled its place in the community until February 24, 1880, when the books were given to the high school to form the beginning of a high school library.

In 1898 the young ladies of the town, under the efficient leadership of Miss Emily McNairy, now Mrs. Charles Ballet of Philadelphia, opened a library and reading-room, in a room set apart for the purpose in the new City Hall. This was a subscription library and was well patronized. The first collection of books was made up of contributions of citizens. The room was supplied with comfortable chairs, substantial tables and book cases, and good periodicals were on the tables.



After varying fortunes, the young ladies, feeling the need of more financial aid, had the question of a free public library brought before the voters of the town at the spring election of 1903. Owing to rumors that the library would materially raise the taxes, the question was decided favorably by a small majority.

In October, 1903, the new library was organized under the name of the Lake City Public Library, and in February, 1904, it was opened to the public. The following were the officers and trustees: Mrs. G. F. Benson, president; Dr. W. F. Wilson, vice-president; Mrs. G. S. Todd, secretary; N. C. Pike, J. M. Underwood, J. E. Phillips, Mrs. Jennie Covell, Mrs. C. A. Koch, Mrs. W. Murray, trustees. Miss J. E. Baker was librarian and Miss Alice M. Fowler, assistant.

Since its organization the board has lost two of its original members by death— Mrs. W. Murray and Mrs. Jennie Covell; and one by removal, Mrs. G. F. Benson. The present board consists of Dr. W. F. Wilson, president; Mrs. E. H. Bayley, vice-president; Mrs. G. S. Todd, secretary. The trustees are Mrs. Koch, Mrs. Leonard, J. E. Phillips, N. C. Pike, J. M. Underwood and Prof. C. W. Brown. Miss J. E. Baker is librarian and Mrs. Elton Lamb, assistant librarian.

When the library was taken over by the city, the number of books was 1,148, which number has increased to 5,143. About 3,900 people have visited the library as readers during the past year, the average attendance daily being 22, according to the report of July 1, 1919.

Some preliminary steps were taken some time ago to secure a Carnegie Library, but on account of the war, all efforts in that direction had to cease. There is much hope that in the not far distant future we may have a new library building.

The Lake City Woman's Club was organized in 1894 and federated in the following year. It has from its inception been an important factor in the educational development of the community, its members devoting a part of their time to the study of various subjects intimately connected with modern culture, such as art, music, literature, the ancient and modern drama, social development, the progress of woman, equal suffrage, and other timely topics. Frequent meetings are held with talks by members of the club, or by visiting speakers, and are enlivened by music, or occasionally a dramatic presentation of some play or scene previously selected as a subject for study. The topics are varied and a strong interest has been developed and maintained in the work. The present officers of the club are: President, Mrs. R. C. Steele; vice-president, Mrs. H. Eastman; recording secretary, Mrs. C. S. Nygren; corresponding secretary, Mrs. G. S. Todd; treasurer, Mrs. G. H. Hammond.

The foundations of Lake City's fine post office building were laid in 1914, and the building completed in the spring of 1916. It is located on High street, near Lynn avenue, and cost about \$5,700, complete with fittings. It is a brick, fireproof structure, of handsome architectural design, measuring 50 by 80 feet in ground dimensions. It is provided with fireproof vaults and burglar-proof safes, and is installed with 428 lock boxes. The Lake City post office is an office of the second class and has four rural routes. Three carriers are employed for city delivery work, and mailing boxes have been placed at convenient points throughout the city. During the recent war the office sold about \$200,000 worth of war stamps. The first post office here was established about April 1, 1857, with Harvey F. Williamson as the first postmaster. The office successively occupied various buildings rented by the government, the last one, previous to the erection of the present building, being located on the corner occupied by the Collins drug store.

Lake City has an excellent park system, to which an important addition is soon to be made.



**Oaklyn Park**, situated centrally in the downtown district, was laid out about thirteen years ago as the result of activities on the part of the Woman's Club and other civic organizations. After the idea had been developed and a plan formed, the Jewell Nursery Company furnished and planted the shrubbery, and the park was laid out with the help of the societies interested. Too much artificiality was avoided, much being left to nature. A sum of from \$800 to \$1,000 a year is set aside by the city to keep the park in good condition, and there have been a number of private benefactions for keeping the cement walks in repair and perpetuating the other improvements. Previous to the great fire of 1882 a part of the ground was occupied by timber yards and the rest utilized as a cow pasture.

**Ohuta Park** is located on the lake shore below the power station, a part of the ground having formerly been occupied by a large flour mill. The land was platted, cement walks laid out and trees and shrubbery planted.

**Point Park.**—All of the lake shore from the power house to the Goodhue County line was donated to the city for park purposes by private individuals, the old shacks formerly occupying a part of the ground being torn down, the ground terraced, grass sown, and walks laid out. Some thirty or forty years ago this ground was purchased by the members of a Lake City yacht club for club purposes, the members having individual titles. The original idea, however, was abandoned, the members retaining the land. About three or four years ago it was decided to build a bath house, which was completed and presented to the city. The location is known as Point Park, and in addition to the bath house, picnic grounds have been laid out. It all now belongs to the city.

**Louis McCahill Memorial Park.**—On the shore of beautiful Lake Pepin there is proposed and under way a material addition to the fine park system of Lake City, as a lasting memorial to the valiant young men who went to the world war from Lake City, and to the memory of Louis McCahill, son of Mary E. McCahill, of Lake City, and in whose honor the Lake City post of the American Legion has been named the "Louis McCahill Post." Mrs. McCahill has planned and is carrying into execution, entirely at her own expense, this proposed public improvement by acquiring and parking nearly all the real estate bounded by Lake Pepin, Main street and the government pier. The moneys paid by Mrs. McCahill to the city for the part of the property formerly owned by it are to constitute a trust fund, the income from which is to be used for the maintenance of the park. When completed, this beauty spot will forever remain a permanent testimonial to the valor and patriotism of Lake City's notable youths and their sacrifice for their country.

The camp grounds of the National Guard of Minnesota are within the limits of Lake City, and have been occupied by the state for about 25 years. The land was donated to the state by the city, and accepted by act of the legislature, a condition of the donation being that the state militia should annually encamp on the grounds for a period of thirty years. Since the first encampment the fine military displays at Camp Lakeview have attracted numerous visitors, the attraction being enhanced during the war with Germany by the special musterings, evolutions of the motor corps and other military functions, executed and beheld with patriotic ardor.

**Banking.**—The earliest banking enterprises of Lake City were conducted on a small scale by private individuals. Among the first to engage in this business was C. P. Cogswell, a young man from the East, who opened a bank in 1858 on the corner of Main and Marion streets, in a very pretentious and expensive building (for that early day), erected for banking and office purposes in 1857 by Dwelle & Tibbetts. In the spring of 1859 Mr. Cogswell turned over his agency of the Phoenix Insurance Co. to A. T. Guernsey and left town. He was succeeded by E. Chamberlin & Co., who came from no one knows where, and whose banking operations were continued for but a few weeks, when he, or they, also left for parts unknown, leaving a small bill due the village printer.



About this time, H. F. Williamson established a large general merchandise store here, and, as a matter of convenience to himself and friends, connected with his business a commercial exchange. This was principally done by purchasing checks, drafts, and other commercial paper having a par value, from traveling men and newly arrived immigrants. Mr. Williamson subsequently left Lake City and became a merchant in Duluth.

**The Lake City Bank of Minnesota.**—In 1863 the grain and commission firm of Bessey & Doughty, who were then doing a large business, added a banking or commercial exchange department to their house, not so much as a matter of profit to themselves, but of convenience in their growing trade. They were also agents for and did a large traffic with the old Northern Line of steamboats on the Mississippi, and thus found the convenience of a banking system almost indispensable. The enterprise prospered without event until one morning in the summer of 1866, when it was discovered that the bank had been burglarized. This unfortunate affair caused Mr. Doughty to withdraw from the banking business in Lake City. But the already great commercial interests and still growing enterprises here created an urgent demand for a commercial exchange. The opportunity was taken advantage of by W. C. Hackett, who, in 1867, established a private bank that enjoyed the confidence of the people. In 1870, Mr. Hackett sold out to Joel Fletcher of St. Johnsbury, Vt., who continued it as a private enterprise until 1872. It was then incorporated under the state laws as the Lake City Bank, with a capital of \$50,000, the incorporators being Joel Fletcher, M. C. Humphrey, Sr., Ephraim Hackett, Myron A. Baldwin, Sloan M. Emery, J. W. Ray and C. F. Rogers. The first president was Joel Fletcher, who served in that capacity until his death in 1875. He was succeeded by Samuel Doughty, who retired from the office about a year before his death, which took place in 1893. George F. Benson, the next president, served until his death in 1907, when he was succeeded by Clarence A. Hubbard. On Mr. Hubbard's death, April 4, 1919, his son, William A. Hubbard, was elected to fill the vacancy, and is now president. The cashiers of the institution have been: C. A. Hubbard, 1872 to 1907; William A. Hubbard, 1907 to 1919; Milton L. Erickson, 1919 to the present time. The vice-president is Joseph M. Underwood, and assistant cashier, John W. Lamb. The bank has occupied quarters on its present site since its establishment. Its first building was a small frame structure, which after awhile gave place to a three-story brick building. The latter was completely destroyed in the great fire of 1882, and a two-story building was erected to take its place. In 1892 this new building was gutted by fire, and temporary quarters were occupied until the present building was erected. Another fire, in 1902, caused the bank to suffer a severe loss, but through all these conflagrations the institution never lost a business day. It is, as its slogan proudly affirms, "The oldest state bank in Minnesota," having a record of 53 years' continuous, conservative and successful banking.\* It is a member of the Federal Reserve system. Its statement at the close of business, February 28, 1920, showed a capital stock of \$50,000; surplus fund (earned), \$50,000; undivided profits, \$17,526.78; U. S. deposits, \$4,800; other deposits, \$731,920.94.

**The Citizen's Bank of Lake City** was organized August 19, 1898, as a state bank by Henry A. Young, W. R. Murray, Geo. R. Bartrom, E. F. McCall, Anson Peirce, J. Cole Doughty, Horace F. Johns, R. A. W. McLeod, C. H. Plummer, Hiram Center, and Charles A. Koch. The capital was \$20,000 and the first officers were: Henry A. Young, president; George R. Bartrom, vice-president; E. F. McCall, cashier. The directors consisted of the above mentioned officers, together with J. Cole Doughty, Horace F. Johns, Anson Peirce and W. R. Murray. The bank bought the present site and erected their present building before starting business, the building with fixtures costing about \$9,000. It opened its doors for business August 19, 1898, on receiving its charter. In 1905 Henry A. Young was succeeded as president by W. R. Murray. On the latter's death in 1913, E. F. McCall became president, but he also died and was



succeeded in 1918 by Thomas J. Morrow. In January, 1912, G. H. Lange succeeded E. F. McCall as cashier, and is still serving in that position. The bank's financial statement on February 28, 1920, showed a capital stock of \$50,000; surplus fund (earned) of \$50,000; loans and discounts, \$606,398.57; total deposits, \$668,793.80. The slogan of the institution, "The bank that backs the farmer," is indicative of its policy, and the Citizen's Bank has proved an important factor in the material advancement both of the city and the surrounding agricultural community.

**The Security State Bank of Lake City** was organized in 1912 by D. L. Mills, John A. Wright, R. C. Tennant, Peter Beck, and F. C. Hartshorn. The officers were: D. L. Mills, president; R. C. Tennant and Peter Beck, vice-presidents, and John A. Wright, cashier. The capital was \$25,000 and the surplus, \$5,000. The present building, on the corner of Main and Center streets, was purchased and remodeled. Mr. Mills and Mr. Tennant still hold their respective offices. Peter Beck is now deceased and his place as vice-president has been taken by his son, H. P. Beck. Mr. Wright resigned as cashier and went to St. Paul, and his place has not yet been filled. The capital remains the same, but the surplus has been increased to \$12,500. The bank's last statement showed deposits of about \$250,000. The institution does a general banking business, including insurance, and has adopted as a slogan, "Security, Strength and Service." The present directors are D. L. Mills, R. C. Tennant, F. C. Hartshorn, H. P. Beck and John A. Wright.

**The First National Bank** was an institution organized in 1870, according to the United States laws, with a capital of \$50,000, and with L. H. Garrard, L. S. Van Vliet, John W. Willis, Wm. S. Timerman, G. F. Benson, H. Center, and J. B. McLean as the board of directors. L. H. Garrard was elected president, G. F. Benson, vice-president, and L. S. Van Vliet, cashier. After being operated for some fifteen years, the institution proved a failure, going into the hands of a receiver in December, 1885.

**The Merchants Bank of Lake City** was established, as a state bank, soon after the failure of the First National, with a capital of \$50,000. W. F. Holmes was president, and W. N. Holmes, cashier. It also proved unsuccessful, and went out of business.

An important business enterprise, which for a time enjoyed a flourishing existence here, was the wagon manufacturing concern of Neal, Johns & Co., which was started in 1866 by A. B. Doughty and Calvin Neal under the firm name of Doughty & Neal. In 1878 H. F. Johns bought out Mr. Doughty's interest, and the firm became Neal, Johns & Co. From a small beginning the business grew to be the largest manufacturing industry in the city, previous to 1890 as many as 1,000 wagons being turned out in a year. In 1891 the plant was enlarged and the capacity increased to 3,000 wagons a year, with a yearly sale running as high as 2,200. General agencies were maintained in various Middle and Western states, and the concern became widely known. In course of time, however, it became increasingly difficult to secure the right kind of lumber, owing to the exhaustion of the timber supply in this region. Southern timber was expensive owing to the cost of transportation. The proprietors of the concern having realized handsome fortunes, concluded to give up the business, which was therefore discontinued a few years ago. Mr. Neal is now deceased.

**The Jewell Nursery Co.**, one of the largest business enterprises in or near Lake City, was established by Dr. P. A. Jewell in 1868, with J. M. Underwood as foreman. The business was started on only ten acres of land. The ten years of management by Dr. Jewell brought great credit to the nursery, and rapid progress was made toward developing the varieties of trees and shrubs best suited to this climate. On his death the business passed into the hands of Mr. Underwood, and in 1884 it had so greatly increased that it was deemed best to form a joint stock company and incorporate under the laws of the state



of Minnesota. The business has since developed to an enormous extent, and in addition to fruit and shade trees and shrubbery, the concern has branched out into small fruit and vegetable culture, seed production, and the raising of pure-bred stock. For the year 1920 it is planned to put into cultivation more than 400 acres of land, including 135 acres of corn, 150 acres of oats and about 140 acres of wheat, besides rye, barley, sweet clover, beans, potatoes, and perhaps other vegetables. In the livestock line, which is yet in its infancy, they now have about 60 horses, 125 sheep, 35 cattle and 70 hogs. This number will be materially increased in the future. The cattle will be of the Holstein breed and the foundation will very likely be purchased this summer. Duroc hogs will be bred, a large start having already been made, and the highest priced herd boar of any breed under one year old was purchased by the Underwood farms recently. The price, with cash and other considerations, amounted to \$12,500. Several high priced Duroc sows were also purchased. It is planned to breed nothing but the highest type of animals, and the same principle of highest excellence is followed in the seed and other departments of the business. J. W. Lawton, former county agent, resigned his position March 1, 1920, to take charge of the Underwood farms, which are operated as a branch of the Jewell Nursery Company, and the united enterprise is bound to make Lake City famous.

**Gillette, Eaton & Squire Foundry.**—In the year 1868 Had Gillette, a well-known Lake City man to the older residents, started a small foundry on the corner now occupied by the Interstate Mill. His two sons, James and Asa, were associated with him. As the business grew, a stone building was erected on the lake shore near where the government pier is now located. Robert Eaton was employed by the Gillettes when the firm name was The Gillette Foundry. After they moved into their new quarters, James Gillette disposed of his interests and Mr. Eaton became a partner in the concern, the firm name being Gillette & Eaton. Later W. C. Squire became a member of the firm and the name was changed to Gillette, Eaton & Squire. Two years ago it became necessary to seek a larger site and large buildings to care for the increase. The old Neal & Johns warehouses west of the Milwaukee freight depot were purchased and converted into suitable buildings and the foundry moved there. The concern was incorporated and is now known as the Gillette, Eaton & Squire, Inc. Today it is one of the best equipped foundries in this part of the state. One of the chief products of this concern is the Gillette & Eaton Stern Wheel Steamboat Engine, an invention of Mr. Eaton. This engines is used extensively by the federal government on their river boats, and the government of Mexico also uses them extensively on their river craft. Robert Eaton is president of the concern, John Schmauss, vice-president, and J. E. Doughty, secretary and treasurer.

**The Tennant & Hoyt Company's** flour mill, one of the large industries in Lake City, which contributes a very large share of the total business transacted in the city, was established in 1900 by a firm consisting of R. C. Tennant and Charles G. Hoyt. Both members of the firm were experienced millers, Mr. Tennant coming here from Northfield, and Mr. Hoyt from Minneapolis, where for thirty years he had been associated with the Pillsbury Company. At a cost of \$60,000 they erected near the C. M. & St. P. tracks a 400-barrel mill, in which for about six years they carried on a considerable business. In 1906 the mill was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt in the following year with a larger capacity—of about 800 barrels every 24 hours—and at a cost of \$130,000. Later the service was still further enlarged by the construction of storage tanks and other buildings, at a cost of \$70,000, and with these improvements the capacity of the mill has been increased to 1,500 barrels. In place of the original steam power, the mill is now operated by electric power derived from the Minnesota-Wisconsin Light & Power Company's service. When the new mill was built in 1906, the concern was changed from a partnership to a stock



company, with R. C. Tennant as president and manager; R. A. Hoyt, vice-president and treasurer, and C. E. Brostrom, secretary; and the same officers are still serving. The company employs about fifty men, and the mill is operated night and day. Its machinery is of the modern type, and its chief product, "Golden Loaf Flour," is in great demand, being shipped in large quantities to New York, New England, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, the Middle States, and to points in Wisconsin and Minnesota. During 1919 the total business of the company aggregated more than \$4,000,000. They purchased over 1,300,000 bushels of wheat, for which they paid the large sum of about \$2,900,000. They produced 226,000 barrels of flour, which was equivalent to 1,000,000 49-pound sacks, or to 20 train loads with an aggregate of 1,000 cars; and this in spite of the fact that it was a little below an average year. This establishment means much to the wheat raiser in this section, as it has been the means of encouraging the industry. The business outlook for this year, 1920, is much larger than last year, and the company expects to see a larger demand for their product than ever before. In addition to flour they manufacture a large amount of feed, such as bran, shorts and middlings, of which they ship large quantities.

**The Interstate Roller Mill** was established in Lake City in the summer of 1919 by J. B. Cain. While a comparatively small mill, it is equipped with the latest type of machinery, electrically driven, and has already earned an enviable reputation for the quality of its product, the "Flavo Brand" flour. Custom grinding is also done and a feed mill was recently installed, which is enjoying a good patronage.

A former enterprise of Lake City which had a prosperous career for a few years was the Lake City Commercial College, which was incorporated May 1, 1895. It had an able corps of officers, W. R. Murray being president, Charles A. Koch vice-president, U. Curtis secretary, C. A. Hubbard treasurer, and A. Rosenberger superintendent. The trustees were W. R. Murray, Charles A. Koch, U. Curtis, Dr. E. H. Bayley, J. P. Martin and T. I. Crane. Of the corps of teachers, Professors Rosenberg and Curtis were men who devoted their lives to the cause of education and had made a specialty of commercial work. The college enjoyed a large and increasing patronage, not only at home, but from adjoining states. Its career of usefulness, however, was brought to an end some five or six years ago by the death of the secretary, Mr. U. Curtis, who had been the moving spirit of the institution, and soon after that event the enterprise was given up.

**The Strandberg Art Glass Company** is one of the leading industries of Lake City. The concern began business here in the fall of 1911 under the name of the Twin City Cut Glass Co., with T. H. Strandberg and G. Carlson, of St. Paul, Minn., as proprietors. The business was continued under that name until April, 1919, when the partnership was dissolved, T. H. Strandberg taking as a partner his brother, E. K. Strandberg, when the present name of the firm was adopted. The head office of the concern is located in St. Paul, where the Strandbergs operate another plant under the same name. In the Lake City factory twenty people are employed, operating sixteen frames, or machines, the frames being kept in operation the year round, turning out the highest grade of cut glass ware made. The product is sold entirely to jobbers over a territory extending from coast to coast, and from St. Louis to Winnipeg, Canada. The plant is located in the old Commercial Building on Lyons avenue, the corner of Sixth street. E. K. Strandberg has charge of the business here, and the payroll amounts to about \$1,200 per month.

**Lake Pepin Co-operative Creamery Co.** is a prosperous concern which has enjoyed the fastest growth of any in Lake City. The creamery was formerly privately owned and operated, but in 1917 a stock company was formed with a capital of \$15,000, the stock being now in the hands of about 200 farmers. The company handles cream, butter and ice cream, most of the farmers bring-



ing in cream, while a few deliver milk. The concern has had a phenomenal growth and is contributing largely to the comfort and needs of the people of this section and a large part of Goodhue County. The first year it did a business of \$96,000, which had increased in 1919 to \$154,000, and it is still growing. At present it occupies the building of the former concern, but a new building has been planned for next year on lots purchased on South Washington street, near the Dwelle Telephone Co.'s building. The officers of the Creamery company are: Charles B. Harrison, president; William Peters, vice-president; Paul Sandberg, secretary; H. C. Bremer, treasurer, and A. G. Schandel, manager and butter-maker. The directors are Fred Schuman, Fred Miller and H. C. Holst.

**Rest Island Fox Farm.**—This important enterprise, now one of the prominent attractions, perhaps the most novel and interesting in the vicinity of Lake City, was originated by one of the present residents of the city, Arthur Schleicher, formerly of Millville, who is now secretary and manager of the company. One day, in June, 1911, Evan O'Hara, a farmer boy, came into Millville with a number of red fox pups, which he offered for sale. Arthur Schleicher, then a youth of twenty, engaged with his father in the lumber and agricultural implement business, bought three of the pups, for which he paid \$2.50. Becoming much interested in the little animals, he read all the literature he could get hold of bearing on their care and breeding. Though such literature was then scanty, he soon discovered some interesting facts; among others, that fox breeding was carried on to some extent in Canada, especially on Prince Edward Island, the methods in use being carefully kept secret, and that the silver foxes were valuable, a pair having been sold for as much as \$30,000. Seeing a large profit in the industry, he considered the possibility of establishing a fox farm in Minnesota, and resolved to make the experiment. Having sold his red foxes at from \$12 to \$40 each, he invested in a few silver foxes, for which he paid from \$500 to \$1,200, and began his experiments. By 1915 he was ready to go deeply into the business, and accordingly bought six pairs of registered standard-bred silver foxes on Prince Edward Island. There is a regular system of registry and pedigrees for silver foxes as well as for Percheron horses or Shorthorn cattle, and good breeders sell today at from \$800 to \$2,000 a pair. Foxes to be eligible in the books of the Prince Edward Island Breeders' Association must be almost black, with silver markings over the eyes and over the hips. The silver markings are in the long hairs in the fur. These hairs are black on the ends and of a silver color in the middle, black or mouse colored below near the hide.

Mr. Schleicher had to find out many things through experience. One of his early mistakes was in permitting strangers to visit the fox dens during the season between January and July 1. This lost him a large number of fine pups, as the foxes notice the slightest change, and if a mother fox becomes frightened she will carry her pups around the pen all day long, holding them in her mouth by the nape of the neck as does a cat. Too much of this carrying around is not good for them, and for this reason the keeper avoids anything that might make the mother fox nervous. Between January and June no one ever goes inside the guard fence except the regular keeper, who takes care always to wear the same clothes. To help shut off distraction from the outside, to make it more comfortable for the foxes, and to keep the fur dark, wild cucumbers are planted around the fences. These soon form a mat of vines, so that little sun gets into the pens. The foxes like the shade, and the sun would fade the furs. The lack of sunlight does not affect the foxes' health, as the adult foxes are very hardy animals. They are fed largely on horse meat and dog biscuit, with some rice meal and corn meal, but no fresh vegetables. For feeding purposes a horse is killed every five or six days, old horses being bought at from \$10 to \$18. The foxes mate for life in pairs, one male and one female. It is very seldom that the male fox will mate with more than one female. The



father is an ideal husband and parent. As soon as the young are born he carries all the food put into the pen to the mother, and as soon as the cubs are ready to eat meat, which is when they are about three weeks old, he exhibits great solicitude to see that they get all they want. The fox nature appears to be almost untamable. Even after long generations of captivity the wild nature predominates, though finally some of the foxes get so they will take meat from the hands of the keeper. But even he has to be careful that they don't bite his hand. Another early mistake made by Mr. Schleicher was in the building of the pens. His first pens were separated by only one fence of woven wire. Put a dozen foxes into the same pen and they will get along beautifully, but separate two pairs with a single woven wire, and you will lose a lot of fox legs. They will fight through the fence. Now two fences are built, eight feet apart, and only one pair of foxes are put in a pen. Sometimes later in the season a number are put into the same pen, but in such case the inclosures are always separated by two fences at least two feet apart. The furs are sold in December, being shipped to reliable firms who pay the full worth of the goods. Until recently the best market has usually been in the United States or in Paris, but it is probable that the furs produced this year will go to London. For some years the St. Louis market has been the best in the world, but the recent change of conditions may temporarily divert the trade. The company has sold quite a number of pairs of foxes to breeders in Minnesota, and are aiming to make this the greatest fox breeding state in the Union, for which the conditions and prospects are very favorable. Visitors are invited to visit the farm at any time from June to January, but from January to June, for the reasons already mentioned, they are asked not to call. The officers of the company are: John Schmauss, president; Arthur Schleicher, secretary and manager; and R. A. Hoyt, treasurer.

The Dwelle Telephone Company of Lake City was established in March, 1897, by G. M. Dwelle, and lines were installed covering Lake City. On April 1, 1905, the company was incorporated with G. M. Dwelle, Sr., as president; G. W. Patton, vice-president; and G. M. Dwelle, Jr., secretary and treasurer. G. M. Dwelle, Sr., died April 15, 1915, and was succeeded as president by Peter Beck. On the death of Mr. Beck in November, 1919, W. G. Ball became president and is now serving. These have been the only changes on the official board. In the fall of 1897 the company extended its wires and installed toll lines in all the villages in the northern half of the county. In 1898 the company bought the interests of the Plainview Telephone Company, and operated that line with exchanges at Plainview and Wabasha. During the winter of 1903-04 the company sold the Plainview exchange and the lines south of the Zumbro river, and since then there have been few further changes, except that the lines have been extended so as to cover the territory south of the Zumbro river and the territory in the southeastern part of Goodhue County. On January 1, 1920, the Lake City exchange had 1,181 phones, and the Wabasha exchange, 467 phones. The Wabasha exchange was sold April 1, 1920, the company's total investment, before the sale, amounting to \$91,500. The company now has 254 miles of pole lines, covering Lake City and its environs and into Goodhue County.

**The Clamming Industry.**—Some thirty years ago it became generally known that river or fresh water clams occasionally contained valuable pearls. A host of clam fishers at once sprang into activity, operating on almost every river and body of fresh water where pearl-bearing clams could be found. Lake Pepin proved one of the most valuable fisheries, and within a short time the business here had developed into large proportions. At first the shells were regarded as worthless and were thrown away, but experiments proved that they could be utilized profitably in the manufacture of buttons, sleeve links, barrettes, and other fancy articles, and whereas, 22 years ago there was not a button factory in the United States, there are now hundreds of them operating the year around. The Wisconsin Pearl Button Company, of La Crosse, a large concern employing



some 300 hands, in 1911 started a branch factory in Lake City, which has since continued in operation, employing usually some 50 or more cutters. The Lake Pepin Pearl Button Company was started in Lake City four years ago, but has recently closed, owing chiefly to the difficulty in securing help. One year, about 1913, 2,400 tons of clams were taken from Lake Pepin, about 90 per cent of the shells being available for manufacturing purposes.

The following description of the fishing operations, written by Lawrence Lunde, was published in the Graphic-Republican of Lake City, February 14, 1913: "A clammer's outfit consists of a flat scow equipped with a windlass, rope, anchor, oars, and two bars holding the hooks. Clamming with hooks takes place usually in five to ten feet of water, but sometimes as deep as thirty feet. The windlass contains about 300 feet of rope, at the end of which is an anchor. The anchor is dropped into the water—say ten feet deep—and then you row until you reach the end, or until the 300 feet of rope is between the anchor and your boat. Now the bars holding the hooks are lowered into the water, one in front of the other. The bars may be any length, but are usually about 16 feet long, and made from lead pipe. Each bar holds from 50 to 60 strings (or stays) and each string two or three hooks. The hooks are made of stiff wire with four barbs each. So with the bars down you have about 300 or more hooks dragging on the lake bottom. Now you begin pulling in on your rope by means of the windlass, and going in the direction of the anchor. The clam is generally open in the water, and when anything comes in contact with it, it closes up. To pull in this 300 feet of rope takes about ten to fifteen minutes. When you reach the anchor you pull up the bar ahead, and then the other. The bars rest in standards on the boat. A good lift is about 150 to 200 clams. So you proceed in the same manner, rowing out the length of your rope, dropping in your bars and pulling in. The clams are pulled off from the hooks and thrown into the boat. The clammer works on the water eight or nine hours a day, and spends the rest of his time in "cooking out." In cooking, the clams are placed in a large tank under which is a fire. Only a little water is poured into the tank, because the clams hold a large quantity. The clams are taken out and placed on the sorting table soon after the boiling point is reached. They are cooked because then they become loosened from the shells. If there happened to be any pearls, they would be harmed if cooked too much. On the table the shells are thrown into a pile, and the meats sorted in search of the coveted prize. One meat at a time is squeezed once or twice in the right place and thrown aside. Pearls and slugs are found usually in the muscles and along the hinge side. Once in a while small pieces, called "chicken-feed" by the clammer, are found in the mantle, and frequently pieces are found fast in the shell. Numerous pearl buyers visit the clammers daily. Pearls are sold by the grain, with due consideration to roundness and lustre. Several have been found which sold for \$1,500, and others as high as \$3,500. A pearl buyer always has ready cash. He buys his pearls here and then goes east or abroad and sells them at enormous prices. Slugs and broken pearls are found daily and sell as "chicken-feed" from \$1 and up. A clammer can make wages on shells alone. Some shells are no good, as the razorbacks, and are thrown out. With favorable weather and lifts, a clammer can get about one quarter of a ton a day. Many clammers get shells by the use of rakes, and others use gasoline launches.

The above article was written seven years ago, and is correctly descriptive of conditions at that time. The former custom of hauling the boats up to an anchor with a windlass has been abandoned, and now the hauling is done by gasoline launches, there being boats hitched to a launch. The bars now in use are 20 feet long, to which are attached some 40 stays, or one every six inches, each stay being furnished with two or three hooks. The present law allows a boat to have three bars, but only two down at a time, and during the last three years it has been necessary for each boat to have a license, costing five dollars. At the time the Wisconsin Pearl Button Company started their branch factory



in Lake City, there were between 500 and 600 clammers on Lake Pepin, each having one or more boats, but the number has since dwindled to about one half that number, the rest having for the most part sought newer and richer fishing grounds.

The Lake City Shipping Association is an organization numbering over 310 members, with H. C. Holst, manager. During the year 1919 the association shipped 132 cars of stock, the receipts for the year being, in round numbers, \$310,000. Paul Goihl is president of the Shipping Association, with William Peters, vice-president; L. H. Roschen, secretary, and H. C. Bremer, treasurer. The ice business has for years been a prominent industry of Lake City, and with a fine source of supply, admirable facilities and good management, continues to flourish.

In the space allotted to this history, it has been possible merely to mention a few of the most prominent business enterprises, chiefly manufacturing or productive, now flourishing in Lake City, or which have formerly existed. Some others will be found mentioned in the biographical part of this volume. Considerable advancement has been made during the past year, and many firms are making expansions in the business. Mercantile enterprises are in general prosperous, the merchants carrying up-to-date stock, and building enterprises have been carried on to a large extent.

In common with patriotic men and women all over the country, the people of Lake City in general worked hard to aid Uncle Sam in the recent World War. Dr. George S. Todd was local chairman of all the five Liberty Loan committees, and the city exceeded its quota in each campaign. The Red Cross chairman was Mrs. D. O. Irwin, D. L. Mills acting as treasurer, and excellent results were obtained, the workers all showing zeal and activity. The interests of "the boys" were well looked after, and they were made to feel from the moment they entered the service that they were not forgotten by those at home. R. C. Tennant was county chairman for a part of the time on the Second Liberty Loan drive, while a large number of residents, both men and women volunteered or cheerfully accorded their services as canvassers, or in other ways aided effectively the various branches of war work. Many of the older boys and girls also "did their bit." While among some citizens of foreign birth or antecedents there was indifference, if not secret hostility, no great amount of trouble was experienced from this source. Such persons soon realized that the country was in earnest, and met the demands made upon them, if not from patriotism, because they knew they must, or to save their popularity. Receptions and banquets were tendered to the boys entering the service, whether by draft or enlistment, and gave rise to some lively and affecting scenes not soon to be forgotten.

The Lake City Fife and Drum Corps is a uniformed organization which, in a broad sense, may be termed a revival of a similar organization which existed a number of years ago. It was organized during the recent war and is still kept up. It is composed of sixteen pieces under the leadership of Capt. L. V. Hurd, and is a useful adjunct to military parades, Memorial Day exercises and similar functions.

A number of the more prominent fraternal orders are represented Lake City by lodges. A few have had an ephemeral existence and disbanded, but the orders now represented here have for the most part strong lodges, with a large, interested and active membership. Carnelian Lodge No. 40, A. F. A. M., was established under dispensation in January, 1863, its charter bearing the date of October 28, the same year. It has occupied various quarters and suffered severely in the great fire of 1882, but, like the fabled Phoenix, soon arose from its ashes. It has numbered among its members very many of the best business and professional men of the city, whose names are inseparately interwoven with the city's history and development. The Masonic bodies—the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Eastern Star—now occupy a rented hall



in the Lyon block. Hope Chapter No. 12, R.A.M., was organized under dispensation February 7, 1867, its charter being issued October 12, the same year. Lake City Commandery No. 6, was organized about three years after the institution of the Chapter, its first meeting being held April 21, 1870, and its formal organization occurring November 12 the same year. Lake City Chapter, O.E.S., was formed Friday, October 18, 1894, and now has a large membership, as also have the other branches of the Masons.

Like City Lodge No. 22, I.O.O.F., was instituted July 23, 1868, and now has between 90 and 100 members. The lodge occupies a rented hall in the Wise building. Mt. Zion Encampment No. 7, I.O.O.F., was organized February 20, 1871, and had a prosperous existence of about 37 years. About twelve years the Encampment made the mistake of merging with that at Red Wing, which two years later surrendered its charter, and that ended the history of the local organization.

In addition to those already mentioned, the principal fraternal orders which are or have been represented in Lake City by lodges, with the date of organization (where ascertained) may be enumerated as follows: Insurance Lodge; No. 38, A.O.U.W., January 19, 1878; Lake City Lodge No. 576, K. of H., April 4, 1877, now out of existence; S.S.H.F., the Scandinavian Relief Association, 1874; Major Doughty Post, No. 117, G.A.R.; Court Lake Pepin No. 1096, I.O.F.; Lake City Camp No. 2491, M.W.A.; Schiller Lodge No. 7, S. of H.; and the Equitable Fraternal Union, 1903. The last mentioned has a present membership of 120. The Woodmen's lodge has 167 members. The Red Men have also a lodge with a membership of 88, and for a number of years have met in Woodmen's Hall. An important addition to the local societies is the Louis McCahill Post of the American Legion, an outgrowth of the late World War. The social, literary and civic interest of Lake City are also enhanced by the Women's clubs, which have been and are both active and highly useful.



## CHAPTER XXIII.

### WABASHA.

Wabasha Township, outside the corporation limits of Wabasha city, consists only of five sections and several fractional sections, and its history is so intimately bound up with that of the city that it will be included under the same head.

Wabasha, the county seat of Wabasha County, is one of the oldest towns on the Mississippi, having been occupied continuously since 1826. Situated on a beautiful terrace overlooking the Mississippi River, and almost surrounded by towering bluffs, its location is a most picturesque one, and possesses many commercial advantages. Like many other Mississippi River towns, the city is stretched along the banks of the river, its tendency to length being increased by the fact that the railroad station lies at the extreme east of the city, while the courthouse and the public school and the ferry are near the western edge. The principal business street lies parallel to the Mississippi River and only a block away.

Railroads having their terminals here tap the rich valleys of the Chippewa and Zumbro, and a ferry terminating at a road which leads across the bottoms to Nelson, Wisconsin, lays tribute on the wheat lands of southwestern Buffalo County. Good roads leading in all directions also make it the natural center of the surrounding fertile lands in Wabasha County. Passenger, freight and lumber traffic on the Mississippi River, once so important, is now at a minimum, but the river still has its part in the prosperity of the town. Two boat building concerns construct excellent craft, rough fishing and searching for clam shells are both important, and as the result of the latter industry, a button factory is maintained.

The most important industry, and one that dates since the early days, is that of milling. A large line elevator concern also has its headquarters here. In addition to boats, already mentioned, sash and doors are produced in considerable quantities. Live stock, barley and produce also shipped.

The city possesses many advantages in the way of religion, education and philanthropy. There are Catholic, Congregational, Episcopal and German Reformed churches, and in addition to the large public school, the Catholic people maintain an important parochial school. The Catholic people also have here an orphanage and hospital. There is likewise an excellent sanitarium.

The municipal improvements include waterworks, an electric light plant, a sewer system and fire protection. The city hall is adequate and sightly.

There are three newspapers, the Wabasha County Herald, the Wabasha Standard, and the Wabasha County Leader. The two banks, the First National Bank and the Farmers & Merchants State Bank, maintain the financial integrity of the city. The Commercial Club is a live organization, looks after the city interests and maintains club rooms. The public library has a wide scope and is well patronized. The two elevators, the live stock shipping association and the creamery furnish a market for farm products.

The courthouse and jail are commanding architectural features, and with the near-by magnificent high school building, add much to the beauty and importance of the city.

Augustin Rocque settled in Wabasha in 1826. About the same time came Duncan Campbell. Both settled in the extreme western part of the present city, across the slough. In 1838, Oliver Cratte built a house on the levee. Joseph Buisson settled nearby the same year. Francois La Bathe established a post



here sometime after the Black Hawk War. His date is usually given as 1841. He sold out to Alexis Bailly, who spent the remainder of his life here. Among these early traders gathered a little settlement of people, mostly mixed blood relatives.

In 1842 Father Augustin Ravoux, of St. Paul, sent a log building from Mendota to this place to be used as a chapel. The building was placed upon a raft and floated down the river, and set up on the point where Main street now terminates. This was the first building for religious purposes ever erected in Wabasha. It was used for the purpose designed several years, but went finally into disuse as a church edifice in consequence of the irregularity of services, and was afterward used for secular purposes. The first paper printed in Wabasha was printed there, and a school was taught in it.

The city of Wabasha was named in 1843 after the great Dakota chief. An interesting ceremony accompanied the christening. A hole was dug in the ground on the levee, and a bottle containing a paper giving an account of the event was placed in the hole; then a post was set up over it with a board nailed thereon, upon which was printed or written the name "Wabashaw" in large letters. A bottle of whisky was broken to celebrate the christening. In 1853, ten years later, the old sign-post was still standing. It is difficult now to locate just the place where the post stood; but it was on the levee between Alleghany and Pembroke streets. Francis Talbot saw it when he landed here in 1853 from the steamer *Nominee*. At the time of this christening, Wabasha was nothing more than a trading-post and stopping place for traders and voyageurs. It had been a stopping place for the traders for a long time as they passed up and down the river, trafficking with the different bands of Indians on both sides of the river and around the lakes, their headquarters being at Prairie du Chien, so that "the Prairie" seemed like home to them, particularly so to the pioneer Frenchman. After the territory was organized Alexis Bailly was appointed justice of the peace by the governor, and was thereby made the first civil officer of the county. Before that time the manner of living had been quite patriarchal in its way, and no better illustration can be given of it than to quote Mr. Rocque's advice to his sons, which gives his opinion of the law. It says: "Mes fils, ce faut que vous engardez bien a ce moment parceque la loi c'est venue en ville. La loi c'est le diable, et Monsieur Bailly il est la loi." Interpreted: "My sons, it is necessary that you be very careful now, because the law has come to town. The law is the devil, and Mr. Bailly is the law."

In 1849 a bill was passed organizing the territory of Minnesota, whose boundary on the west extended to the Missouri river, and at that time the whole region was little more than a vast wilderness. Alexis Bailly was at Wabasha. Charles R. Read and Fordyce S. Richards at Read's Landing. H. S. Allen, of Chippewa Falls, built a warehouse upon the levee at Wabasha in 1849, and some years added to it and opened a store therein in company with a partner named Creamer. The agent here was named Murphy. The Dakota Indians were numerous, but very peaceable with the white people, many of whom were their relatives, but their enemies, the Chippewas, were often made to realize their hatred, and when some unfortunate Chippewa ventured so near as to lose his scalp, the Sioux would hold what they called a scalp dance. The last of these occurred in 1858, on the levee just below the American House, then kept by C. W. Wyman.

In 1850 Congress constructed a military road from Wabasha to Mendota, costing five thousand dollars. The length of this road was 75 miles. Philo Stone in 1850 erected a dwelling on Levee street. Mr. Stone was a native of Vermont who had come to this country in 1838. He engaged in hunting on the neutral grounds between the Sioux and Chippewas, which being seldom visited by either tribe, made excellent ground for hunting. He was very brave, of a wiry, quick, impulsive temperament, and passed through many skirmishes in earlier times, always coming off the best man.



Christian Shively and Amos Wheeler arrived at Wabasha about the same time as Mr. Stone. A building on the levee was erected in 1853 by a river pilot named Harold, and it was kept as a boarding house known as Harold's Exchange until destroyed by fire in 1858. Francis Talbot, the last of the pioneer fur traders, came here in 1853 with letters of introduction to Mr. Bailly, from his friend, John H. Kinzie, of Chicago, with whom Mr. Talbot was connected at an early day.

An early settler has said: "When the writer of these annals first came to Wabasha, in the spring of 1857, the tepee of the Indian was to be seen in every direction, and the dusky form of the savage might be expected to walk in upon you, or be seen peering curiously at you through the window at any time. Usually they wanted food or "coshpop" (the Indian term for ten cents), begging being one of their strong characteristics. Just below the house in which we lived stood a little copse of wood, where the death-song of the "poor Indian" was heard many times when he thought himself dying; the "fire-water" of the white man proving too much for him. He would get thus far on his way back to the teepee, lie down, as he thought, to die, and then the terrible wail would begin and continue until the poor fellow was overcome and dead-drunken sleep drowned all sensibilities. Their dances, too, were very frequent and dreadfully hideous, yet apparently enjoyed with all the zest their benighted brains and energies could desire. Their medicine and war-dances were the most frequent; they had also a snake-dance, which took in all the serpentine antics and hisses, while the monotonous beatings of their drums was most unearthly.

Sitting at our dinner table one day, we were startled by the door being opened suddenly and five dusky faces, one above the other, peering in at us, the last one with face painted black and red, with mischief-gleaming eyes and two feathers in his hair. Our eldest son, who, in a short time, had caught much of the Sioux language, upon seeing the last face, jumped up and accosted him with, "Now, Dick, what does all this mean?" "Indian hungry," was the reply. "But why are you here with that face?" "Dick dandy," he replied, and it appeared that he had painted and dressed himself in those habiliments for our especial benefit. The Indian was known ever after as "Dandy Dick."

The town of Wabasha was platted and laid out in 1854 by A. S. Hart, the proprietors being Oliver Cratte, Joseph Buisson and Philo Stone. In the spring of 1857 a new company was organized and the town site greatly enlarged by the platting of one thousand acres on the west side of the slough which divided the plateau from the original site. This company consisted of Messrs. S. P. Gambia, B. W. Brisbois, S. L. Campbell, Tho. A. Tomlinson, H. M. Rice, Gen. Shields, Oliver Cratte and Philo Stone; Hon. S. L. Campbell, trustee. A large warehouse was erected on that side by the Lowry interests of New York City, and the foundation of an extensive hotel was laid, and the prospect was flattering for the growth of the city on that side. But the terrible convulsions in the financial world which commenced this year came with crushing effect upon the young city, and discouraged both proprietors and people. Immigration fell off, and business of all kinds suffered exceedingly. In consequence, that part of the city was given up and the land divided among the proprietors in 1860.

Wabasha was incorporated in 1858, by special act of the First State Legislature. The first officers were: Mayor, Capt. W. W. Wright; aldermen, John B. Downer, William B. Lutz and W. W. Prindle; recorder, Carlos W. Lyon; treasurer, S. N. Wright; justice, Charles Webb; surveyor, D. W. Wellman; attorney, John N. Murdock; official paper, the "Minnesota Patriot."

The city charter was revised during the winter of 1868-69, which revision divided the city into two wards, with two aldermen elected in each ward, who held their office two years. The city boundaries and limits were defined as follows: "Beginning at a point in the Mississippi river on the dividing line between Wisconsin and Minnesota, at the mouth of a small creek, called Smith's



creek, between Wabasha and Read's Landing; thence up said creek to the west line of township 111, range 10; thence along said township line to the southwest corner of section 6, in township 110, range 10; thence along the south line of section 6, 5 and 4, of township 110, range 10, to the southeast corner of said section 4; thence north along the east line of said section 4, township 110, range 10, and section 33, township 111, range 10, to the Wisconsin line; thence along the Wisconsin line up to the place of beginning."

The ferry between Wabasha and the point opposite in Wisconsin has been practically continuous since 1862. From the Wisconsin point across the river, the bottoms extend some three or four miles before the main land is reached at the present village of Nelson. In 1858 an effort was made to build a road across these bottoms in order to secure the Wisconsin trade, but the project at that time was not carried out. For more than half a century the extremely poor road conditions on the Wisconsin side made the operation of the ferry a most dubious business venture, with little profit in case of success, and a much better chance for loss. In 1918, however, the Wabasha Roller Mill Co., with James G. Lawrence at its head, leased the ferry from the city, built a mile and a half of fine durable road, with necessary bridges, to Nelson, Wis., and began the operation of a cable ferry which has proved a great benefit not only to the Mill company and the Wisconsin farmers in the transport to wheat to the mill, but also to the citizens of Wabasha and those on the Minnesota side generally. All kinds of freight are handled. A gasoline launch is used for propelling the barge, the trip taking about three minutes. The ferry operates the year around.

The Wabasha Free Public Library is one of the old institutions of the city. In the fall of 1868 a club was organized with 42 members, the object being to develop literary culture and build up a library. The club rented a hall and furnished it neatly, supplied the table with the daily papers of the state, together with most of the popular magazines and leading literary journals, and filled the shelves of the room with a select number of books. They also furnished facilities for all and various drawing-room games. This club consisted of the best society of the place, both ladies and gentlemen. Its managers, however, were gentlemen. During the winter of 1870-71 the interest in the club seemed to be on the wane, and fears were entertained that this good beginning might have to be abandoned. But the ladies decided that it should not be a failure, and they took the library off the hands of the gentlemen entirely, reorganizing under the name of the "Ladies' Library Association." The interest in the library has grown and the institution is today a strong factor in the educational development of the community. In June, 1909, it was taken over by the city and is now supported by a city tax. It contains about 5,000 volumes.

Postal service in Wabasha is among the oldest in the state. The early traders received their mail from Prairie du Chien, in the summer by boat, and in the winter by the carriers bound for Ft. Snelling. In 1849, Fordyce S. Richards, the trader at Read's Landing was appointed postmaster here, and mail matter for Wabasha came to that point. In 1853, Alexis Bailly was appointed postmaster, and service since that time has been continuous. In 1856 a tri-weekly mail service was arranged with the steam boat companies for the summer, and a somewhat less frequent service by means of overland travel in the winter. In 1857, when H. C. Burbank inaugurated a daily stage service between La Crosse and St. Paul, mail was received daily from each direction. The original name of the postoffice, as of the county and city was Wabashaw, but in 1858, the government dropped the final letter, and the office has since borne its present name.

Wabasha has been famed for the attention which it has paid to education since the earliest days, and still maintains its pre-eminence in this respect, the present commodious high school building being as well equipped as any similar institution in the state. The first school taught in Wabasha was a private school taught by Thomas F. Flynn. After the first school-district in the county



was organized, which was that of Wabasha, District No. 1, in 1855, a school was taught in it by H. B. Potter, the building used for the purpose being the old log Catholic church which stood upon what was then called "The Point." Mr. Potter taught a few months in 1856, and then the school was discontinued. Miss E. Hogard taught a private school for a few months in a small building on Bridge street, erected by B. S. Hurd in 1856; Miss Hogard taught during the spring of 1857, but discontinued it on account of the public school being resumed by Miss A. Strickland, who taught for about three months. Mrs. J. J. Stone then opened a private school in her own house on Pembroke street, and taught more or less during the years of 1858 and 1859, removing her school to a small frame building on Main street, below Pembroke. During the summer and fall of 1858 a private school was taught on the west side by E. F. Dodge, in a building erected for that purpose by Jarvis Williams, of Saco, Maine, who then resided on that side. Meantime steps were being taken by the city for the erection of a schoolhouse adapted to the needs of the town, and lots were purchased in block 5 of South Wabasha for that purpose. A stone building 40 by 45 feet was erected during the summer and fall of 1859, the cornerstone being laid with appropriate ceremonies on July 4, 1859. This house cost \$2,500. A school was opened in it on January 3, 1860, taught by W. C. Bryant, assisted by Henrietta Angier, of Toledo, Ohio, all private schools merging into it. Mr. Bryant was from Cincinnati, Ohio, where he had done much to establish a high grade of common schools, and his efforts here were the very first made in Wabasha county toward the union or graded schools. Mr. Bryant continued his teaching until the close of the spring term. No other school was taught in the building as a schoolhouse, as the city donated the building to the county for a courthouse the same year, and the county offices were removed thereto in the fall of 1860.

In the fall of 1860 Walter Gurley opened a private school in the courtroom of this building, teaching it until January, 1861, when Joseph Gates took the school and completed the term, teaching another term during the spring of 1862. The public school was taught very successfully during the winter of 1861-62 by Mr. H. I. Whitmore, his school numbering one hundred pupils. The next school was taught by Mr. Gates, during 1862-3, in the Baptist church building, which was rented for that purpose. A wooden structure at this time was in process of erection, by private enterprise, for an academy, which stood on Third street, between Walnut and Allegheny streets. It was completed in November, 1865, and a very successful school taught in it during the winter of 1865-66 by L. Jenness. A parish school had been instituted under the auspices of the Episcopal church, by the Rev. H. G. Batterson, in 1863-64, which was first taught by Kate Dougall, afterward by Wealthy Tucker, of Winona, in a building owned by Henry de Camp, corner of Bailly and Second streets, but as the other schools advanced in character and course of study, it was given up, the teacher, Miss Tucker, accepting a position as assistant in the school of the academy. Mr. Jenness, having a better offer in Minneapolis, left in the spring of 1865, and no school being taught, Mrs. Marian T. Bowditch opened a private one in the courtroom for the summer. Mrs. Bowditch continued her school, assisted by her niece, Miss E. Bowditch, in her own house the next winter, discontinuing it in the spring of 1866. Meanwhile the school in the academy was taught by Rev. Bonnel, a Baptist clergyman, assisted by his wife. Public school was taught in the Baptist chapel by Joseph Gates, assisted by Mrs. J. J. Stone, Miss M. Staples teaching the summer term. After the purchase of the academy by the city, Mr. Hopper was employed as principal, Henry F. Rose succeeding him. Mr. Rose remained two years, and was succeeded in the fall of 1867 by E. Hogle, who taught the school two terms, assisted by Miss D. Clark and Miss J. Lynch. Mr. E. A. Booth succeeded Hogle, and remained until the spring of 1868, when he resigned the place, his position being filled the next term by Mrs. E. L. Douglass; Jennie Fyfe, teacher of intermediate department; Miss McCune, of primary.



The academy building was now too small to accommodate the different grades, and rooms were rented therefor in different parts of the city. In the spring of 1868 the subject of a more commodious and central schoolhouse was agitated, which resulted in the erection of a fine edifice in block 4, South Wabasha, and in the gathering of the different departments of the graded school under one roof. The board of education, after deciding upon the amount of funds needed for that purpose, and to issue bonds upon the credit of the school-district No. 1, submitted the same to a vote of the electors of said district on April 27, 1868, as required by law. The vote cast was for the issue of these bonds, and they were issued to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, redeemable between July 1, 1870, and July 1, 1880. The size of this building was 62½ by 82½ feet, is three stories high, including basement, and contains twelve rooms, besides the halls and wardrobes; four in the basement, four on the first floor, with a wardrobe to each room, and four on the upper floor, with wardrobes also. The high school department occupied the double room on the northwest side of the house. A belfry in the center of the building contained a bell of six hundred pounds, and it is warmed by three Lossing furnaces. Messrs. Gates, Brink & Harlow were the contractors, and the whole cost of building and seating the rooms amounted to twenty-five thousand dollars. The board of education at the time consisted of Rev. B. Wharton, S. S. Kepler, J. Satory, J. B. Davis and George Hall.

The school was opened in this building in December, with R. H. Sturgis, principal, and four assistant teachers. In September, 1870, S. L. Sayles, of New York, accepted the position of principal of the school, with five assistant teachers, and taught and regraded it very successfully. Mr. Sayles resigned the position in 1872, and was succeeded by M. B. Foster, also an able and efficient teacher, who remained four years. E. Hogle succeeded him for one year, when J. B. Hawley was employed, together with six assistant teachers. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Hawley resigned and Wm. A. Snook succeeded him, remaining two years. Horace Gibson took charge of the school in September, 1882. Thus was the present school system inaugurated and established, and its later developments have been still more extensive and thorough. In 1894 a large brick schoolhouse was built on Mulligan street near East Second, which is now used for the grades and the manual and normal training departments.

A few years ago a new high school was felt to be a necessity, and appropriate measures were taken for the construction of the present handsome and commodious building, which was built in 1917, at a cost of \$60,000. It fronts on Market street, its rear being connected by a closed passageway with the school building erected in 1894. It is of pleasing architectural design, with the interior carefully planned, and well lighted by large windows in all the rooms. In addition to the class rooms it contains a fine gymnasium, surrounded by a balcony for spectators, and a spacious auditorium used for an assembly room and for lectures, plays and various public entertainments. The heating plant is separate from the building. The high school is organized on the junior and senior high school plan, the seventh and eighth grades being assigned certain high school studies and constituting the junior high classes, while the senior classes take more advanced work and additional studies, this plan affording the advantage of a more gradual transition from common to high school work. The enrollment for the year ending in June, 1920, was 200 in the grades and 110 in the high school, from the latter there being 15 graduates. Twelve teachers are employed in the high school and six in the grades. The present superintendent is Anton Fischer, who came to Wabasha the latter part of August, 1920, from Benson, Minn. He succeeded L. U. Towle, who was superintendent for seven years previously. The Wabasha high school in its equipment, management and standard of scholarship takes high rank among the similar institutions of the state.



Schmidt Memorial Park is one of the notable improvements of Wabasha. When the schoolhouse was planned it was the regret of every lover of the beautiful in the city that it should stand on the edge of an unsightly piece of what was practically waste land. It was Mrs. Julius Schmidt, the widow of one of Wabasha's prominent citizens, who, after her husband's death in April, 1915, conceived the happy idea of perpetuating his memory by the transformation of this piece of land into a public park, and who thoroughly and beautifully carried out the plan. In the present year, 1920, she has added to the attractions of the park by the erection of a fine drinking-fountain, which she presented to the city at a public ceremonial on Saturday, August 21.

The river front of Wabasha has been beautified by the laying out of the Mill River Gardens, which stretch along the river bank for 650 feet. These gardens are tastefully laid out, are planted with wild and cultivated flowers and furnished with walks and arbors. This work was initiated by James G. Lawrence, head of the Wabasha Roller Mill Co., and has transformed a once uninteresting section of river front into one of the most attractive spots in Wabasha and the vicinity.

Among the notable buildings, in addition to the high school, elsewhere described, are the City Hall, a substantial two-story brick building with basement and belfry, erected in 1894; the large and imposing Court House, with its well lighted and commodious offices, and the County Jail, a fine brick building, of modern design constructed at a cost of \$40,000 in 1918.

The old Baily House, built in 1858, is a historic landmark, still in a good state of preservation. Baily was a noted Indian trader, elsewhere mentioned in this volume, who, after bringing General Sibley to Mendota in 1843, came to Wabasha and settled here. He was buried here with his two wives, the first of whom was a Faribault. The Baily House in its palmy days sheltered many noted guests, among whose names appear those of Gen. Franz Sigel, Gen. Buckner and Marshall Field.

The Journal was the first paper published in Wabasha County. It was established July 4, 1856, at Read's Landing, by H. J. Sanderson, and moved to Wabasha in the spring of 1857, where it was published till some time in the fall of 1858, when it died. The city records show that it was made the official paper of the city of Wabasha April 27, 1858. Some time during the summer S. S. Burleson bought an interest in the paper, and later in the same season acquired entire control. Sanderson went south, and, when Vicksburg surrendered to Grant, was one of the rebel troops captured there, and was recognized by several of his old Wabasha acquaintances.

On Christmas Day, December 25, 1858, S. S. Burleson issued No. 1 of the Minnesota Patriot, which was made the official paper of the city May 3, 1859. It died a natural death some time during the summer. Burleson was a lawyer, but at a later date studied theology and became an Episcopal minister. Both the Journal and the Patriot were Democratic in politics.

October 29, 1859, H. C. Simpson commenced the publication of the Wabasha Weekly Journal, a six-column quarto, republican in politics, and an adherent to the cause of Abraham Lincoln. On November 23 of that year the newspaper was made the official organ of the city. In the spring of 1860 G. W. Marsh bought an interest with Simpson, and the paper was published by Simpson & Marsh. This was the year of the first contest between Wabasha and Lake City for the county seat, and it was said that the Journal received financial recompense for aiding the cause of Lake City, the result being that the two editors barely escaped drowning in the Mississippi by a mob of indignant citizens. December 8, 1860, the paper was discontinued at Wabasha, and started again at Lake City, January 3, 1861. Simpson soon after enlisted in the 2d Minn. Vol. Inf., and passed from sight of his Wabasha friends. Marsh went to Wisconsin, and at a later date was crippled by an accidental gunshot.



The Wabasha County Herald is the oldest paper in Wabasha County and one of the oldest in the state, having been started before the state was admitted. In the early spring of 1857 the McMaster family settled at Read's Landing. Two of the sons, T. A. and W. C., were printers, and they either brought with them, or soon obtained, a press and material, and made arrangements to publish a newspaper. It was at that time proposed to call the village of Read's Waumadee, and the newspaper was named the Waumadee Herald, and the first number was published during the first week in May. On the twelfth day of that month the Messrs. McMaster were drowned in the Mississippi by the accidental upsetting of a skiff in which they were crossing the river, and with them died the Waumadee Herald. Norman E. Stevens, a young printer from Illinois, arrived at Read's some two months after the death of the McMasters, and with the assistance of the business men of the village, especially T. B. Wilson and F. S. Richards, made arrangements to purchase the office from the McMasters family, and on June 27, 1857, he published the first number of the Wabasha county Herald. Mr. Stevens was an eager Republican, and the paper was devoted to the advocacy of the principles of that party.

In the fall of 1860 the people of Wabasha, dissatisfied with the course taken by the publishers of the Journal, determined to have a paper that would assist in the development of their town instead of their rival Lake City, and such arrangements were made with Mr. Stevens, that in December he moved his material to Wabasha. On December 12, 1860, the paper appeared, with Wabasha and Read's at its head as joint places of publication, and it was so published until the spring of 1863, when the name Read's Landing disappeared from its head.

Some time during the year 1861 the issue of a semi-weekly edition was commenced. It was continued until the close of 1862, and was a bright, newsy sheet. During the year 1862, U. B. Shaver was sole publisher for a few weeks, and Stevens started a paper at Plainview, but it was not a success and he returned, and Shaver and Stevens were joint proprietors up to about April 1, 1864, when Stevens sold his interest to his partner Shaver and moved to Paxton, Illinois. For a few weeks in the summer of 1864 R. H. Copeland had charge. August 3, 1865, Shaver sold out to E. W. Gurley and Frank E. Daggett. Both were eager republicans and had served in the Union army, and Daggett had won a lieutenant's commission by gallant service. Gurley was a pleasant writer and did most of the editorial work during the short time he remained connected with the paper, and Daggett, who was an excellent printer, attended to the mechanical department. Mr. Gurley was not in good health and soon retired, and at a later date went to North Carolina. Henry W. Rose, the purchaser of Gurley's interest, was a writer of very much more than ordinary ability. Under his editorial management the Herald was generally regarded as the ablest country paper in Minnesota. About January 1, 1868, Daggett became ambitious of a larger field, and, disposing of his share in the Herald to Rose, went to La Crosse and purchased an interest with Lute Taylor in the Republican and Leader, of that city. The Herald remained under the sole management of Mr. Rose from this time until his death, in April of the same year. For a few weeks during Rose's illness, and after his death, J. K. Arnold had charge of the office; but Daggett, whose La Crosse enterprise had not proved a success, soon returned and purchased the office from Lorenz Ginthner, administrator of Rose's estate, and was sole proprietor until the summer of 1870, when he sold to Amasa T. Sharpe and Willis D. Palmer. The leading editorials during the two years following were furnished by John N. Murdoch, a well-known lawyer of Wabasha, and a Republican of the straightest sect, and he did not allow the Herald to become lukewarm in its politics. Later, in the autumn of 1872, Sharpe and Palmer left Wabasha for Ottawa, Kansas, where they established the Ottawa Republican. W. S. Walton was the next proprietor of the Herald and to him is due much of the credit for inaugurating the movement



which resulted in building the Midland railroad from Wabasha to Zumbrota. During a part of the time his brother, H. H. Walton, was associated with him in the paper, and June 1, 1878, W. L. Lewark, who for several months had been foreman in the office, bought a third interest in the establishment. April 1, 1879, Mr. Walton sold to W. H. H. Matteson his two-thirds interest in the Herald. Matteson and Lewark ran the paper until April 1, 1881, when O. F. Collier purchased from Matteson and assumed the business management, with Mr. Lewark controlling the types and presses.

On September 26, 1888, almost the entire office and outfit were destroyed by fire. The 27th was publication day, but without a break the paper appeared. This was accompanied by taking the forms to Lake City and doing the printing on the Graphic-Sentinel press, the use of which the owners of that paper, Messrs. McKinney & Linnen, kindly accorded. A new outfit was at once procured, and as soon as the old quarters in Lucas Kuehn's building had been sufficiently repaired the proprietors again occupied it and proceeded to fit up the office in metropolitan style. New type was purchased throughout, new stands, furniture and fixings, a five-horse engine and large steam boiler were installed, radiators and steam pipes introduced, and the entire building heated by steam. A large Cottrell press was purchased, also a large Gordon jobber, and the office was placed on a better footing than ever before.

About 1890 or 1892 Mr. Collier withdrew from the firm, the paper being subsequently published by J. F. McGovern & Co., the new firm being composed of J. F. McGovern, James Keating and W. L. Newark, Mr. Newark having previously been a partner with Mr. Collier. The new firm continued for several years until Mr. Newark dropped out about 1895 or 1896, but the paper was still published under the firm name of J. F. McGovern & Co. up to September 1, 1905, when S. M. Quigley bought the McGovern interest, the firm becoming Keating & Quigley. As such it remained until October 16, 1908, when Mr. Quigley bought out Mr. Keating, and has since remained the sole owner. W. J. Dornuf, who has been with the Herald since 1909, is the active manager of the plant. The old steam power system was replaced some eight years ago with electric power. The plant is thoroughly modern, containing all the necessary equipment of an up-to-date office. The Herald is a standard seven-column, eight-page weekly. In politics it is independent with Democratic leanings. The oldest newspaper in Wabasha County, it is also the official paper of the city—a privilege it has always enjoyed, and has also been the official paper of the county since early days except for a few years. Under its present ownership and management it is enjoying continued prosperity.

The Federal Constitution, a Democratic journal, was published for a few weeks in the summer of 1864, by Dr. F. H. Milligan and John W. Tyson; it was short-lived, had no office, and was printed on the Herald press.

The Wabasha Bulletin was established in the summer of 1879 under the guidance of Editor Slagel. In the latter part of 1880 it passed into the hands of J. R. Pennington. The next and last owner was C. J. Hines.

The Wabasha County Leader, the latest addition to the ranks of journalism in the city of Wabasha, was established in March, 1919, by an incorporated company consisting of a number of farmers residing in various parts of the county, there being now about 200 stockholders. It is politically independent, its chief object being the promotion of co-operative enterprises. W. W. Cheatham is employed as editor. The Leader has already a circulation of about 1,200 and is still growing. It has a good modern plant with everything needed for a successful journalistic enterprise. The paper is an eight-page, seven-column weekly, neatly printed, and apparently has a promising future.

The Wabasha Standard was first known as the Wabasha Democrat, under which name it appeared early in February, 1888. The founders and proprietors were A. J. Stone and C. J. Haines, the former a Republican and the latter a Democrat. The political complexion of the paper was at first Democratic, but



as such it was conducted but a short time. Its name was soon changed to *The Standard*—about 1899—and a year or so later the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Stone becoming the sole owner and editor. He conducted it as a Republican weekly newspaper until his death in December, 1906, after which event it became the property of his widow, Mrs. Emma C. Stone, who employed an editor and other necessary help, and continued its publication until September, 1918, when she sold it to the present editor and proprietor, Hugh R. Smith. Mr. Smith has made no change in the politics of the *Standard*, which is a six-column quarto of eight pages, neatly printed. The plant includes a good cylinder press, a type-setting machine, job press and other modern equipment, and the paper is flourishing under its present management.

**St. Felix Parish of the Roman Catholic Church** at Wabasha, with its various religious, educational and philanthropic activities, dates back to 1842, and is therefore one of the oldest church organizations in the Northwest. In 1842 the Rev. Augustin Ravoux, of St. Paul, sent a log building from Mendota to this place to be used as a chapel for worship. It was placed upon a raft and floated down the river, and after reaching Wabasha it was put up on the ground of what was called "The Point," which is now the terminus of Main street, north. This was used as a church edifice some 14 years. As there was no settled pastor of the flock, services were very irregular, and the building was finally used for secular purposes. The first printing press of the town was set up in it, and the first paper printed in the county issued therefrom. A school was also taught in it for a time, but finally the old church fell into decay, all traces of it having long since been obliterated.

In the autumn of 1858 Rev. Felix Tissot came to the place and immediately took measures to erect a new church upon the ground of the Catholic cemetery in the southeast part of the city, on what is called "Rocque's Addition." It was completed in the spring of 1859, but it proved to be too far from the center of the town for convenience, and in 1862 it was taken down and moved to lot 6 in block 22. The size of this church was 30 by 50 feet, there being a tower in front in which was a bell weighing 500 pounds. It was consecrated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Grace on July 27, 1862. In the fall of 1872 a school was opened in the basement story of the church, under the charge of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Milwaukee, of 90 pupils, with three teachers, Sister Venantia the superior.

This church, proving too small for the increasing congregation, had to give place to a new and large brick structure on lot 1 and half of lot 2, in block 26, the cornerstone of which was laid with imposing ceremonies by Rt. Rev. Bishop Grace. It was completed in 1874 and dedicated with imposing ceremonies.

The first resident pastor of Wabasha was Rev. Felix Tissot, rector of St. Felix Church from October, 1858, to October, 1866, when the parish was placed in charge of Rev. James Trobec. A convenient rectory was built upon lot 6, block 22, at an expense of \$2,200, in the year 1872.

Father Trobec continued as pastor until 1887, when he was succeeded by Rev. Max Wurst, under whose long pastorate of 32 years the parish had a steady and remarkable growth. Father Wurst proved a devoted priest, an indefatigable worker, and a man of great administrative ability, whose labors bore abundant fruit. He not only personally supervised all the various branches of parish work, but applied himself continuously, and to the full extent of his remarkable powers, to enlarge their scope and increase their effectiveness.

The brick church erected in 1874, after an existence of nearly 20 years, was completely destroyed by fire, and in 1893 was rebuilt by him with improvements. Just previous to this he had built the Sisters' residence and the St. Felix School building, the latter being completed in 1902. Father Wurst also built the present rectory, enlarged and beautified St. Felix cemetery, and after strenuous



efforts succeeded in having the State Sanitarium located in Wabasha—an act of public spirit appreciated by all the citizens irrespective of creed. For this work of development and upbuilding he was especially fitted by his thorough and extensive knowledge, both of civil and ecclesiastical law, and in a good cause he spared no efforts. His activities in building up the parish attracted wide attention and drew many settlers to Wabasha and the surrounding country. The church recognized his services by advancing him to the ecclesiastical dignity of Monsignor, and they were equally appreciated by the members of his flock and by the citizens of Wabasha generally. His earthly labors were brought to an end by his death in 1919, and he was succeeded in the fall of that year by Rev. John N. Bartholome, another man of energy and proved ability.

Father Bartholome is a native of Wabasha County, born and reared in Chester Township. He pursued his classical course at St. Francis Seminary, at Milwaukee, studied philosophy for two years and theology for four years at St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., and was there ordained in 1902. His first appointment was at Worthington, Minn., where he remained 18 months. From 1904 to 1919 he was stationed at Fulda, Minn., where he built up and improved the parish, erecting a fine church costing \$60,000 and a school which cost \$40,000. Since taking over the Wabasha parish he has made some important improvements here, which were begun soon after his arrival and have just been completed (September 1, 1920). The interior of the school has been revarnished and calsomined, the convent has been supplied with a new heating plant, and the rectory has been practically rebuilt inside and a garage erected, the total cost amounting to about \$25,000.

St. Felix School is a large and important institution and furnishes full instruction in the graded and high school courses, equal in extent and thoroughness to that supplied by the public school system. The building is a large brick structure of two stories and basement, with convenient and well lighted class rooms, and an auditorium capable of seating 1,000 people, which at present is also used as a gymnasium.

There are twelve Sisters of Notre Dame connected with the parish, with Sister Euphemia as superior. Eight of the Sisters are teachers in the school, which has an enrollment of from 325 to 350 pupils. The school includes a large music class under the charge of a special music teacher.

In connection with the parish there are also some 14 or 15 active societies, the Knights of Columbus organization alone having more than 500 members. Another prominent organization is the German Benevolent Society, having a membership of between 190 and 200. All these societies are engaged in religious, philanthropic or social work calculated to bring useful results and maintain and advance the general interest.

Wabasha is the home of two important charitable institutions under the control of the Catholic Church—St. Elizabeth's Hospital and St. Joseph's Orphanage, each of which has had a large and steady growth.

St. Elizabeth's Hospital had its origin in 1898, when a small house belonging to Dr. Milligan, and standing on the present site of the institution, was purchased, and, after being remodeled, was fitted up to accommodate from ten to twelve patients. That the demand was urgent may be inferred from the fact that within a very few days the hospital was filled to its capacity. Within the next two or three years cottages were erected to meet the increased demand for room. These, however, were found insufficient, and therefore in 1905 a three-story brick building was erected, with accommodations for 25 to 30 patients, in addition to the nurses and management. It is an imposing structure, beautifully located one and a half miles from the business center of Wabasha, on the bank of the Mississippi River, and commanding a view of the river and the Wisconsin bluffs. The reputation of the hospital spread, and within a few years another addition had become necessary. The need was met



by the construction of a modern three-story wing, which was begun in the summer of 1919. The hospital has been made a fire-proof building and contains a fine operating-room, with all the necessary scientific appliances, together with a magnificent chapel. The present capacity of the hospital is from 60 to 65 patients.

St. Joseph's Orphanage, Wabasha, was established in December, 1900, when Bishop Cotter sent five children of the Connolly family of Winona to Wabasha to be taken care of. The Sisters had no place for them, but could not turn them away, so a small cottage was fitted up and the children housed. By the fall of 1904 the need of a regular orphanage had become so pressing that larger and better quarters had to be provided, and a substantial brick structure, with accommodations for 85 to 90 children, was begun, and was completed in November, 1905. The building adjoins its companion institution, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, and, like it, commands a fine view of the Mississippi River. An eight-grade school is conducted in it. The girls who remain for high school training are sent to St. Felix Parochial School in Wabasha, the boys being sent to St. Mary's College at Winona. Desirable homes are found for all the children, the Sisters exercising supervision over them until they become of age. Both Catholic and Protestant children, from two to sixteen years old, are received by the orphanage, which is a charitable institution liberally assisted by citizens of the Winona diocese. There are 22 Sisters connected with the orphanage and hospital. Thirty-five acres of land have been purchased, on which vegetables and garden produce are raised for the use and benefit of the institutions.

**Grace Episcopal Church.**—The first Episcopal service held in Wabasha was given in June, 1857, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Kemper, missionary bishop of the Northwest, which included Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Dakota. After Minnesota became a diocese, the first service held in the diocese by its bishop, the Rt. Rev. Henry Benjamin Whipple, was at Wabasha, in the Baptist chapel, October, 1859, as he was on his way up the Mississippi to St. Paul. Regular services were held during the year 1860, by the Rev. Charles W. Clinton, in a room fitted up for that purpose in a building on Bridge street known as Apollo Hall. A Sunday school had been organized in the winter of 1857 by a lady, holding it in her own house, under the sanction of Bishop Kemper, being assisted from time to time by clergymen who held occasional services in the place before Rev. Clinton's ministry began. That school has been continued until the present date without interruption, and it was the first Sunday school organized in Wabasha. Mr. Clinton remained about eight months, preaching alternately here and at Lake City. After he left, the Rev. C. P. Dorsett held occasional services until the autumn of 1862, when the Rev. H. G. Batterson commenced his labors here, his first services being given on the twenty-third Sunday after Trinity, November 23, 1862. The parish was not organized until December 16, when, at a meeting, it was voted to call the organization by the name of Grace Church, Wabasha, regular service and Sunday school being held in the court-house. In the spring of 1863 three lots were given by Wm. W. Prindle for church purposes, and arrangements were made during that year for building a stone church upon the ground, contract let to R. P. Andrews for the laying of the walls. The basement was completed in the spring of 1864, and corner-stone laid on June 15, with appropriate ceremonies. A copper box was placed in the stone, containing a copy of the Holy Scriptures in English, according to the standard of King James' translation, a copy of the Book of Common Prayer, a copy of the Church Almanac, with parish list for 1864, also copies of the "Church Journal," "The Northwestern Church," and the "Wabasha County Herald," one silver dime and half-dime of the issue of 1853, an English shilling piece of the reign of George III, 1788, a five-cent Canada coin of silver, Victoria, 1858, ten and five cent specimens of the postal currency, ten-cent piece of scrip, Bank of Tennessee,



Nashville, December, 1861, a copper coin of Canada and United States, ein kreuzer, 1816, photograph of the first bishop of Minnesota (Bishop Whipple), and the pastor, Rev. H. G. Batterson; the names of the bishop and clergy of Minnesota for 1864, with names of the members of the standing committee and other officers of the diocese. Unfortunately, on June 23, the builder and contractor were drafted for the war, and the work on the structure had to be suspended and the project finally abandoned, for, as the price of labor and material advanced, the parish had not the means to carry forward the work.

During the winter of 1864-65 the Rev. Mr. Batterson was absent from the parish on account of ill health, during which time Ralph E. Arnold gave a lay service every Sunday morning and took charge of the Sunday school, which at this time numbered one hundred and nineteen scholars. Mr. Batterson returned in the spring, and on the first day of June, 1865, the Baptist chapel was purchased and removed to the church lots on corner of Bailey and Third streets. It was thoroughly repaired and painted, a bell tower in the rear being added, and the opening service was held therein on Sunday, July 30. By a general subscription, aided by friends of Mr. Batterson, a bell was purchased of Messrs. A. Fulton, Sons & Co., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and it was rung the first time on Sunday morning, October 29, 1865. The weight of this bell was 850 pounds.

On April 30, 1866, the church was incorporated and the following named wardens and vestrymen elected: Carlos W. Lyon, Charles R. Read, William W. Prindle, William T. Dugan, Nathan F. Webb, James G. Lawrence and Ralph E. Arnold. Of these officials Mr. Lawrence, now 84 years old, is still one of the leading members of the church. About this time the Rev. Mr. Batterson preached his farewell sermon and was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Wardlaw, who commenced his labors June 24, 1866. His successor was the Rev. Alex Seabrease, B.D., who took charge of the parish May 23, 1869. During this year the parish built a rectory costing \$1,600, and steps were taken to fill up the basement of the church. The Rev. A. Seabrease closed his connection with the church June 2, 1872. After him came the Rev. Horace Hills, who closed his rectorship of the parish September 30, 1877. He was succeeded on October 7, the same year, by the Rev. James Cornell. The Rev. James Cornell was succeeded by Rev. Joseph J. Hillmer, who was pastor for twelve years and three months, his successor being Rev. Elmer Lofstrom, who served seven years. After him came Rev. Charles H. Plummer, who was pastor two years, and was succeeded by Rev. Caleb Benham, who also served two years. Then came Rev. John Evans. The Rev. John Evans was pastor for two years, and was succeeded by the Rev. Archibald Sidders, who also remained two years, leaving in August, 1919. After Rev. Archibald Sidders said farewell to the parish no services were held, except occasionally by the Bishop, until recently, but now Rev. Joseph J. Hillmer, of Winona, a former pastor of the church, is holding services twice a month.

The present stone edifice, a most beautiful piece of architecture, was erected in 1900 by Mr. Thomas Irvine, now of St. Paul, as a memorial to his wife, Mrs. Emily Hills Irvine, who was the daughter of the Rev. Horace Hills, formerly rector of the parish. The building is one of the most tasteful pieces of church architecture in the state. The chancel window, representing the two Marys at the tomb Easter morning, was made by Tiffany of New York at a cost of \$3,000.

**The Congregational Church of Wabasha** was organized in February, 1856, the original members being Deacon Oliver Pendleton, Mrs. W. W. Prindle, Mrs. W. Hancock, Mrs. H. Wilson, Malcolm Kennedy and W. S. Jackson, Rev. H. H. Morgan, missionary director. This organization, next to the Catholic, is the oldest in the place. The first settled pastor was the Rev. S. L. Hillier, who commenced his ministry May 1, 1857, services being held in what was called Apollo Hall. Mr. Hillier was succeeded by Rev. David Andrews October 15,



1858, and he was the first clergyman who held service in the new church. This church was built on lot 2, of block 14, on Second street, its size being 22 by 50 with a bell tower in the rear containing a bell weighing 1,000 pounds. The building was dedicated October 20, 1858. Rev. Mr. Andrews was succeeded by the Rev. Hiram Doane in August, 1860, he commencing his labors on the 27th. Upon the breaking out of the rebellion Mr. Doane resigned his charge for another in the service of his country, and was succeeded by the Rev. L. N. Woodruff, September 16, 1862, and Mr. Woodruff by Rev. S. A. Van Dyke in 1864. The next pastor, the Rev. Edward Hildreth, assumed charge in April, 1866. The Rev. Henry Loomis was pastor 1867 to 1868. The Rev. C. W. Honeyman succeeded Mr. Loomis in the spring of 1872, in which year the society erected a beautiful parsonage upon lot 1 of the church property, which cost \$3,600. Mr. Honeyman's health failing him, the Rev. O. Hobbs officiated from January 14, 1874, to April 2, 1874, when he was succeeded by Rev. E. J. Wicks; and Mr. Wicks ended his labors with this congregation in August, 1875, being succeeded by the Rev. S. D. Todd on November 3 of the same year. Mr. Todd continued his ministry here until succeeded by Rev. J. W. Ray April 4, 1877. Mr. Ray continued his pastoral relations until the autumn of 1882, when he was succeeded by the Rev. C. P. Watson. The Sabbath school was organized in the autumn of 1858, and has been continued with unabated interest and success until the present time. Malcolm Kennedy acted as superintendent some twenty-two years. W. S. Jackson was the very efficient and interested librarian of this school from its commencement to the time of his death in February, 1882. The first deacons of this church were Oliver Pendleton, Sr., and William W. McDougall. Rev. C. P. Watson served until 1883. The succeeding pastors have been as follows: N. T. Blakeslee, 1883 to 1889; W. H. Medlar, 1889 to 1898; R. L. Breed, 1898 to 1902; W. B. Pinkerton, 1902 to 1907; W. H. Short, September, 1907, to November, 1908; Wilbur M. Evans, April, 1909, to February, 1910; Henry Ketcham, October, 1910 to August, 1913; James A. Orrock, September, 1913, to 1914; W. A. Pringle, 1915 to 1917; Elmer D. Gallagher, September, 1917, to the present time. In 1914 the Methodist Episcopal Church, which for some time had been going down hill, federated with the Congressional Church and supplied two of the pastors above mentioned, the Revs. J. A. Orrock and W. A. Pringle. The federation lasted for some seven or eight years, at the end of which period the Methodist Church, having only about 35 members left, and the church property being badly out of repair, gave up their own church organization, the majority of the members, about 25, on July 4, 1920 (Sunday), joining the Congregational Church, and further accessions from the same source are expected. The present membership of the church is about 130; the Sunday school enrollment about 100. The Woman's Missionary Society and Ladies' Benefit Society are active factors in church work. The present church edifice, a neat frame building, was erected in 1884, the old edifice being united with it so as to form one building. It is located on W. Second street at the corner of Walnut. Miss Julia Hilker is the present organist.

**Methodist Episcopal Church of Wabasha.**—The first Protestant services held in Wabasha were by Rev. Dwight Kidder, in the American hotel, in 1855. Mr. Kidder was a Methodist, and had been sent to take charge of the mission embracing Read's Landing, Wabasha, Central Point and Wacouta. A class formed in Wabasha, consisting of H. B. Potter, leader, H. Tracy, T. G. Bolton, J. W. Bolton, Nancy Bolton, Ruth E. Bolton, Mrs. Wilds and Hannah Drew. The first quarterly meeting held in the place was in the log chapel belonging to the Catholics, December 15-16, 1855. Rev. Benjamin Crist was appointed to this charge in 1856, but did not remain, and services were interrupted until August, 1857, when the Rev. S. Salsbury was placed in charge, his work to comprise Wabasha, Read's Landing and Cook's Valley. Mr. Salsbury left in the spring of 1858, and the next pastor in charge was the Rev. James Gurley.



A Sunday school was instituted this year of forty-five scholars. The next pastor in charge was J. L. Dyer, the next Rev. Jesse Smith, in charge to the fall of 1861, when the Rev. Harvey Webb was placed in charge and remained until 1863. During his administration, the church was reorganized according to the statutes of the state, by appointing John R. C. Creighton, secretary, Rev. H. Webb, pastor, presiding. Five trustees were elected: Thomas Roberts, John R. Creighton, James Crowley, John Lewis and James Luscombe. They decided to build a church upon a lot which had been previously purchased on Second street. A building committee was chosen, consisting of Rev. H. Webb, L. Dietz, John McArthur, Thomas Bolton and Thomas Roberts. Specifications for the church building were, size 24 by 40 feet, height 14 feet, the vestibule being added afterward. The whole expense of building amounted to \$1,000, and it was dedicated on August 6, 1862. The Rev. A. Wilford was placed in charge September, 1863, and remained in charge during 1863-64. In November, 1864, Rev. Wilford was appointed, by the governor, chaplain to the 3d Minn. Vol. Inf., and his place was supplied by Rev. J. R. Creighton, who had received license to preach at conference of 1864. At the next session of conference in 1865, Rev. T. M. Gossard was appointed in charge, and he was succeeded by Rev. J. L. Farber, who was reappointed in the fall of 1867 and remained until 1868, when the Rev. S. G. Gale succeeded him. Rev. W. C. Rice was pastor in 1869-70, and he was succeeded by Rev. B. Y. Coffin, who remained in charge until the fall of 1871, when the Rev. S. G. Gale was returned as pastor. Mr. Gale remained two years, when Rev. W. C. Shaw succeeded him. Mr. Shaw died in February, 1874, and the Rev. M. O. M'Niff was appointed to supply the remainder of the year. September 14, 1875, Rev. W. H. Soule was appointed pastor and remained in charge until October 21, 1878, when the Rev. James Door succeeded him. October 11, 1880, the Rev. W. C. Miles commenced his pastorate, which continued until October 10, 1882, when the Rev. D. J. Higgins was placed in charge. This church was removed to Fourth street, lots 7 and 8, in 1870, the old lot being sold for three hundred dollars. The first stewards were: H. B. Potter and R. F. Morris, in 1855. The first trustees were James Crowley, Thomas Roberts, J. R. Creighton, John Lewis, John W. Luscombe. The first Sunday school superintendent was R. F. Morris. For a number of years this church had a flourishing existence, and then a period of disintegration set in, due to deaths and removals, the limited resources of the members, and perhaps other causes which need not be specified. At last, too weak to be self-supporting, in 1914 the church federated with the Congregational Church of Wabasha, and on Sunday, July 4, 1920, when only some 35 members were left, a majority of them joined the Congregational Church, and the Methodist Episcopal organization in this city came to an end. The edifice, badly needing repairs, has been sold, and will be remodeled into a residence by the purchaser, Mr. Wall.

**The German Lutheran and Reformed Congregations.**—A German Lutheran congregation was organized in 1875, with a membership of fifty, with the Rev. August Kanne as pastor. Their service was held in the court-room until July, 1876, when their church building was completed on Market street. The size of this church was 25 by 40 feet, and the whole expense, including the church lots and belfry, amounted to \$2,000. The first trustees of this church were Jacob Thoney, Sr., Christian Florine and Wilhelm Ruchenbauch. This church and society have a Sunday school, which was organized in 1876. A seven-hundred-pound bell was purchased in 1877. The first pastor of this church was Rev. August Kanne, who was succeeded in 1879 by the Rev. A. Krahn. The lot upon which the church was built was found to be not pleasing to the congregation, and in the spring of 1881 another was purchased on corner of Jefferson and Second streets, South Wabasha, and the church removed to it in the spring of 1882. The first members of this church were: John Voelger, Henry Balow, Jacob Thoney, Joseph Thoney, Jacob Ray, Jacob Gengnagle,



Peter Tervana, Peter Yanette, Herman Lessing, George Bance, Peter C. Caveteshier, Jacob Miller, William Reichenbach, Jacob Mingold, Peter Klaus, Philip Grub and Jacob Schuler. In the course of time the German Reformed element in Wabasha became stronger than the original Lutherans, and this church practically passed into their hands, though Lutheran ministers continued to preach at intervals. Services were continued more or less regularly until about 1918, the last pastor being the Rev. Tilman Hornemann. Since then no services have been held, though it is thought that they may be resumed in the near future.

The Baptists organized a society in Wabasha in 1857, which for awhile had a flourishing existence. A church edifice was erected in 1857, and a suitable bell was presented by the citizens. The pastor, Rev. James Wharton, kept the congregation together for some two years after the church was built. The congregation was then dissolved, but the church building continued to be an important religious, educational and social center.

Wabasha has two banks, the Farmers and Merchants State Bank and the First National Bank. The first attempt to establish a banking house in Wabasha was made in the flush times of May, 1857, when Hiram Rogers & Son opened a banking office on the corner of Pembroke street and the Levee. Mr. Rogers was a prominent business man of Zanesville, Ohio, who came west in the prosperous times of 1856, and had made some investments in St. Paul before coming to this city, in the spring of 1857. He purchased quite freely of real estate here, paying "wild-cat" prices for lots to which he could subsequently gain no title, on account of the vexed question of half-breed scrip. Being squeezed in the financial crisis of 1857-58, he closed his banking house, abandoned all his property here and departed for St. Paul, having permanently invested about \$17,000 in this city, from which he realized nothing.

Kepler & Jackson, a mercantile company, were in the meantime engaged to some extent in selling exchange on eastern banks, but this was merely by way of accommodation, and they made no pretensions of conducting a banking business.

A new chapter in the banking history of Wabasha was started in the spring of 1864. W. W. Prindle, the county clerk, and N. F. Webb, clerk of the district court, formed a partnership under the firm name of Prindle & Webb, and opened a banking office in a wooden building on the corner of Main and Alleghany streets. The bank location was subsequently changed to the south side of Main street, where they fitted up the small building between Alleghany and Walnut streets, and conducted business several years. The firm as it originally stood was subsequently changed to Webb, Prindle & Chase, and finally became Webb & Co. Webb & Co. continued in business until April 12, 1872, when an assignment was made to E. M. Birdsey, who, when the bank was declared bankrupt, was appointed assignee in bankruptcy for the settlement of the estate. The creditors subsequently received fifteen cents on the dollar, the liabilities aggregating \$33,081.31.

In 1872, about two months after the failure of Webb & Co., a banking house was opened in the Campbell block (on Main, a few doors west of Pembroke), by A. D. Southworth and W. J. Florer, under the firm name of A. D. Southworth & Co.; capital, ten thousand dollars. This banking establishment soon gained the confidence of the mercantile community, did a successful business, was subsequently removed to the north side of Main street, just east of Pembroke, and continued in business until the fall of 1881. W. J. Florer, having died in August of that year, and A. D. Southworth being unable to attend to business through ill health, the banking house of A. D. Southworth & Co. dissolved, and the Bank of Wabasha was organized as its successor.

The Bank of Wabasha, which through the firm of A. D. Southworth & Co. dated back to 1872, was organized September 1, 1881. The incorporators of the Bank of Wabasha were: C. F. Rogers, C. F. Young, L. S. Van Vliet, A. D.



Southworth, James G. Lawrence, W. S. Jackson, Knud Johnson, Dr. J. J. Stone, J. H. Evans, H. P. Krick, Samuel Hirschy, Henry Funk, Mrs. C. E. Krick, Mrs. M. A. Florer, Mrs. A. L. Hills, Mrs. M. E. Wetherbee, Loring Ginthner, H. J. Whitmore and Lucas Kuehn. The capital stock was placed at \$50,000, of which one-half was paid in. W. S. Jackson was elected president, and held that office until his death in February, 1882, when he was succeeded by Lucas Kuehn. Bruce Florer, who had been for some time cashier of the bank of A. D. Southworth & Co., was elected cashier. October 1, 1882, the bank removed to the north side of Main street, midway between Pembroke and Alleghany streets, in the new building which the Odd Fellows had just completed at that time.

**The First National Bank of Wabasha** was chartered June 30, 1883, as a bank of issue, deposit, loan and exchange. It was merely an enlargement of the scope of the Bank of Wabasha with no change in ownership or management. This bank is still in existence. It has a paid up capital of \$50,000, with surplus and profits of about \$55,000, and deposits of \$800,000. The officers are: President, C. C. Hirschy; cashier, L. Whitmore; assistant cashier, H. H. Whitmore.

**The Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Wabasha** was established in 1911. Its president is J. R. Kelly; vice-president, L. Schurhammer; cashier, H. J. Mars; assistant cashier, P. N. Carrels. The bank has a paid up capital of \$25,000; surplus and profits of \$6,480, and deposits of \$312,000.

The first agricultural fair of the county was held in September, 1859, at Wabasha, across the slough, in the building erected for a warehouse, which building, in 1864, was removed to this side the slough and occupied as a grain elevator until it was consumed by fire April 3, 1883.

**The Wabasha Roller Mill Co.** is the most important industry in Wabasha. Wabasha Mill Company was organized in September, 1882, with a capital stock of \$75,000. The incorporators were James G. Lawrence (president), Lucas Kuehn, W. P. Dugan, H. P. Krick, L. F. Hubbard, P. A. Richards (secretary and treasurer), and J. E. Young (head miller). This industry was started as a partnership concern, in 1872, by Downer & Lowth, who erected the mill and conducted the business about five years, when they sold out to Messrs. J. G. Lawrence, W. H. Campbell and A. G. Foster. J. G. Lawrence became the sole owner by purchase in 1878, and managed its affairs successfully until the formation of the joint-stock company as above stated. The first mill, erected in 1872, was originally a burr mill with six run of stones, and had a capacity of nearly eighty barrels a day. Various improvements were introduced from time to time until 1881, when the whole mill was remodeled and made a full roller mill. By this change the capacity was increased to 225 barrels a day, and their average daily product raised to 175 barrels.

Subsequent improvements have increased the capacity to 1,200 barrels daily, and the product has become famous under the name of "Big Jo Flour." A large part of the wheat is obtained from farmers in Wabasha County, and from a number in Buffalo County, Wisconsin, just across the river. The latter supply has been made more available through improvements carried out by the company in the leasing of the ferry from the city, the introduction of a cable system, the barges being pushed by gasoline launches, and the construction of a good road across the Wisconsin bottoms to Nelson, Wis., whereby the old impediments to transport have been removed. The ferry is operated during the entire year and is a most useful and necessary institution, as the nearest bridges across the river are at Red Wing and Winona, 30 miles above and 35 miles below Wabasha, respectively. General freight is handled, as high as 100 tons being handled in a day, the capacity of the barge being from four to five teams with loads. The Wabasha Roller Mill, or "Big Jo" Mill, as it is commonly called, is now the largest industry in this section. The business has been built up chiefly through the efforts of its forceful president, J. G. Law-



rence, whose son-in-law, W. B. Webb, is now vice-president of the company. The mill is a familiar landmark on the river, and occupies a fine location, which has been further beautified by the laying out and cultivation of a floral garden along the river front, provided with seats and arbors.

The **R. E. Jones Company** was organized in 1888 by R. E. Jones and James G. Lawrence. They installed the electric light plant and engaged in the buying of grain and produce. The concern was incorporated in 1889, Mr. Lawrence being president to 1896, at which time he sold his interests to H. J. O'Neill. Other industries of Wabasha may be found mentioned in the biographical part of this volume.

**Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M.**, antedates the incorporation of the village. The population of the city at that time probably aggregated 600 persons, among whom were several who, remembering the old days when they were "wont to be called from labor to refreshment," determined to establish a lodge of the craft in the new home they had chosen for themselves in the upper Mississippi Region. Accordingly a petition for a dispensation to open and conduct a masonic lodge was forwarded to Grand Master A. T. C. Pierson. A dispensation was granted October 22, 1856, and on January 7, 1857, a charter was issued, under the authority of the grand lodge, empowering S. L. Campbell, J. J. Stone, F. J. Collier, S. A. Kemp, Lindsay Seas, Wm. Pierson and B. A. Grub to open a lodge. The lodge was organized in due form with S. L. Campbell, W. M.; J. J. Stone, S. W.; and F. J. Collier, J. W. The original lodge room was in the upper story of a new building on the corner of Walnut street and the Levee, which had been erected for general merchandising purposes by Campbell, Gambier & Pendleton. From those quarters in the upper story of this structure the Masons subsequently removed to the upper story of the brick building on Main street, between Alleghaney and Pembroke streets, at that time occupied by Luger Bros. as a furniture warehouse and salesroom. From Luger's, in 1870 the lodge removed to the third story of the Campbell House block, since burned. The upper story of this building, which stood just west of the present Masonic block, corner of Main and Alleghaney streets, had been erected by special contract with the members of the Masonic order, who had contributed six hundred dollars toward the erection of the block, in consideration of which, and a stipulated rental, a lease was executed for a specified term of years. In 1878 the craft removed to the third story of John Schirtz' building, and there remained until the completion of their own building, Masonic block, of which they took possession December 1, 1880. This property was owned for many years by the Masonic Building Association, but in the latter part of the year 1918 it was purchased by Wapahasa Lodge, which now owns it. The lodge meetings are held in the upper story, the lower being rented out for commercial purposes. The present membership is about 125.

**Relief Chapter, No. 35, R. A. M.**—Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, had been in existence twenty-four years, and the Masonic building was just completed when the members of the craft deemed it wise to take steps toward the establishment of a chapter, that such as desired might receive instruction in the more advanced work of the craft, as exemplified in the higher orders of Masonry. A dispensation to form a chapter was accordingly petitioned for. This dispensation was granted December 12, 1880, and on October 11, 1881, a charter was issued by the grand chapter of the state, constituting Relief Chapter, No. 35, of Wabasha, Minnesota, naming the following as charter members: Jos. Buisson, C. J. Stauff, Francis Talbot, H. N. Smith, A. Campbell, A. J. Bent, W. H. Campbell, David Cratte and I. J. Pennock. The Chapter continued in active operation until some five years ago, when, on the recommendation of the Grand Lodge, it surrendered its charter and its members dimitted to Lake City, this action being taken in accordance with the principle of centralization, so that there might be fewer Chapters, but those existing of greater strength.



**Red Leaf Chapter, O. E. S.**, was instituted January 12, 1881, with the following named charter members: Mesdames Franc. D. Clarke, Mary I. Stauff, Ellen L. Dugan, Anna L. Walton, Carrie E. Krick, Emma S. Peck, Susan S. Robinson, Barbara Porter, Selma Oswald, and Messrs. W. A. Clarke, C. J. Stauff, E. J. Dugan, H. Oswald. This Chapter has not been active for several years.

**Teutonia Lodge, No. 19, I. O. O. F.**, is the outgrowth of the German Aid Society established in this city in 1860. This "aid" society was a local organization, having for its object the promotion of social relations among its members and the care of its members in case of sickness. It had a numerous membership and was in quite a flourishing condition for some years after it began operations. But it was soon apparent that its benefits could not be extended beyond the limits of its own pale, and as its members removed from the city, they were thenceforth debarred from all benefit connected therewith. Accordingly, in 1867, a committee of five was appointed by the society to take the situation under consideration, examine the workings of the various aid or fraternal associations having a national existence, and report which one, in their opinion, was the nearest allied in its objects and work to their own local aid society. This committee consisted of F. L. Riechter, L. Gintner, John Satori, J. T. Gintner and F. Kling, who, after due examination and consideration, reported in favor of the I. O. O. F. as most nearly answering the ends sought. The report of the committee was approved, and they were further instructed to proceed to Plainview, Wabasha County, where there was a lodge of the Odd-Fellows order, receive initiation into the same, and so be prepared to take all necessary steps to secure a lodge of the order in Wabasha. The duties assigned the committee were duly performed; a paper was circulated among the members of the "Aid Society" to ascertain how many of the members were willing to enter an Odd-Fellows lodge when formed, and all things proving satisfactory, the five members forming the committee of the Aid Society, being now members of the I. O. O. F. at Plainview, petitioned the grand lodge for permission to open and conduct a lodge of the I. O. O. F. in Wabasha. The petition was duly granted, and on September 25 the lodge was organized as Teutonia Lodge, No. 19, I. O. O. F., of Wabasha, with F. L. Riechter, J. T. Ginthner, John Satori, L. Ginthner and F. Kling as charter members. The first meeting of the lodge was held in the hall in the third story of Schwirtz block, and continued to meet there until 1876, when they removed to the second story of John Satori's building, northeast corner of Main and Pembroke streets, which quarters they occupied till the completion of their own building in the fall of 1882.

**Oriental Encampment, No. 24, I. O. O. F., of Wabasha**, was instituted February 23, 1883, with eight charter members, the charter being countersigned by Grand Patriarch Romaine Shire, and Grand Secretary J. Fletcher Williams. The name of the charter members, as they appear on the charter displayed on the walls of the lodge-room, are: Herman Oswald, John Schermully, C. H. Crause, Henry Burkhardt, F. H. Milligan, M.D., Paul Casparis, E. J. Dugan and Michael Kuehn.

Other early lodges were: Wabasha Lodge, No. 577, K. of H., organized in 1877; and Wabasha Subordinate Union, No. 215, E. A. U., both of which for some years had a considerable membership. Later the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Degree of Honor and the Royal Neighbors established lodges which are now flourishing. The strongest fraternal order now in Wabasha is the Knights of Columbus, which has a membership of about 450.



## CHAPTER XXIV.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### HISTORY OF HORTICULTURE IN WABASHA COUNTY.

Wabasha County horticulture dates back to the coming of the first settlers from the East, who very soon planted the varieties they had been accustomed to in their eastern homes. Small fruits such as currants, gooseberries, red raspberries, strawberries and grapes, and also peaches, pears and apples were found growing wild near the streams and in the woods; but the prairies only yielded the wild strawberry. It took only a short time to develop the fact that peaches and pears would not live over the severe winters and apples were but a little better. It was commonly believed that it was winter that killed them. Occasionally a Talman Sweet or Perry Russet and quite a number of Siberian Crabs stood the test and came into bearing.

About this time, in 1866, Dr. P. A. Jewell and his wife, Catherine Underwood Jewell, came into the county from Ann Arbor, Michigan. The doctor bought a beautiful location overlooking the city, where he contemplated growing fruit. Coming to this new country he at once became interested in its horticulture. He had come to Minnesota for his wife's health and they spent much time in traveling with horse and carriage through Wabasha and adjoining counties, selling nursery stock and studying the conditions.

It seemed clear that some few varieties were much more successful than other kinds. He found the Duchess of Oldenberg and the Russian Crabs growing wherever planted and he was about to go to Russia to see if he could not find other desirable varieties. Before doing so, he and his wife went to visit a settlement of friends in Hesper, Iowa, where he found a large family of new Crabs growing. He wrote back home that he had found a New Russia and that he would come home and develop what he had found.

In the meantime other pioneers in horticulture met at the State Fair at Rochester and organized a State Horticultural Society of which Dr. and Mrs. Jewell became charter members. And to this society of enthusiastic members that has grown to be the largest Horticultural Society in the world, is due the wonderful progress that has been made. In 1867 Dr. Jewell planted on the sand prairie near Winona, 150,000 apple grafts and a like amount near the fair grounds at Rochester. In the spring of 1868, his foreman dug up what was living at Winona, consisting of 250 crabs, and took them to Lake City where Dr. Jewell had bought a home and where he started the Jewell Nursery and placed it in charge of his brother-in-law, J. M. Underwood.

Among the other men who had made a success in growing apples is J. D. Howard, near Millville. He planted a large orchard of Duchess, Wealthy, Okabena, Malinda and a number of Russian varieties, from which he harvested and sold large crops, finding a ready market in Rochester and around his home on the rolling hills adjacent to the Zumbro River. Another successful grower was Sidney Corp living on the Zumbro, seeming to demonstrate that location and soil had much to do with success. In fact it was found that on the north side of hills where trees had been planted, they did much better than on the south or on the level. Also that clay ground was better than sand. Clearly demonstrating to us who have had time to study the situation that it is a lack of moisture or drouth that causes the death of trees. Varieties differ in their ability to withstand drouth. The texture of the wood in both root and tree seems to be more close and firm in some varieties, and these do well with less moisture. Wabasha County is directly west of Rochester, New York, where



the Baldwin and Northwestern Greening are at their best. But the influence of the lakes and even the ocean keeps the trees from drying out by the moist air that they furnish. While in Minnesota the air is dry and the alternate freezing and thawing expels the sap from the branches and bodies of the trees, destroys the circulation and causes the wood to turn black, and the tree is dead. Any location that helps to overcome drouth is desirable. Wabasha County is highly favored in this respect. The broken country along the Zumbro River and up along the Mississippi and Lake Pepin furnishes unlimited locations where the northern side of hills and bluffs make it ideal for growing fruit. So sure does it seem that it is drouth that does the damage, that The Jewell Nursery Company at Lake City have planted the side of a bluff looking to the north and east, by cutting off the heavy growth of oak and birch and planting apple trees. They dig large holes twelve or more feet in diameter, placing the soil on the upper side. On the lower side to make a level surface they plant the tree in the usual way. From above the tree they dig small trenches to conduct the rains to the tree and thus keep the roots of the tree supplied with moisture. In June and again in August and October the ground around the tree is spaded over and left rough to catch and hold the moisture. It is recommended by some to mulch the trees, but mulching has a tendency to draw the growth of the roots to the surface where they dry out and in that way are more easily injured by freezing. Limestone soil is much better than sandstone, but an application of lime to sandy locations will supply the lime needed for the health of the trees.

The reports of the State Horticultural Society furnish splendid information regarding cultivation and pruning. It has been found that intense cultivation of level ground will do very much to conserve moisture and overcome drowth conditions. Windbreaks of evergreens are the best protection that can be given an orchard or a home in Wabasha County. The White Pine does well. A Mr. James living north of Plainview propagated and planted a large number of evergreens that are a great beauty and protection to many homes in that neighborhood. They should surround the house and barns in rows twenty-five feet apart, and if cultivated and kept clean they will grow rapidly and prove to be the greatest asset on the place. The Black Hills Spruce is the hardiest and the best of all evergreens and should be planted liberally.

Another means of protection is to lay down Blackberries, Raspberries, Grapes and cover them with earth. This is easily and quickly done and insures a big crop for the next year. Roses can be protected by first laying a bed of dry straw or leaves, laying the vines down on it and then cover them thickly with dry rye straw in a conical form, and over this place tar roofing paper running lengthwise with the row, letting it remain until freezing weather is over in April. If the location is favorable for snow to cover the ground for six inches or more, roses can be grown to advantage by letting the snow cover the roots. The tops will kill down to the snow line and can be cut back. The rest that is green will send out new growth and bloom profusely and will continue until freezing comes again. Roses that have been in beds for cut flowers in greenhouses can be bought cheaply and are a success if grown in this way. Hedges of Dorothy Perkins and Crimson Rambler roses grown on a trellis and then covered as before described are a wonderful success. The trellis is made by driving short pieces of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pipe into the ground at intervals of six feet. To these couple other pipes six feet long connected to a horizontal pipe the length of the trellis, using tees at the middle posts and elbows at the ends. Stretch galvanized wire on the posts, to which fasten the vines. Hold the trellis up by means of guy wire running back a few feet and fastened to a short stake driven in the ground. In the fall just before freezing, uncouple the posts at the ground and lay the vines down with the trellis and cover as before described. The object to be attained is to keep an even temperature and prevent repeated thawing and freezing during the winter.



With these conditions, an intelligent selection of location and the right kind of protection and cultivation, Wabasha County is easily the banner county in the state for growing fruits. A number of new and improved varieties in hardiness have been discovered just outside in Winona County. A conspicuous case occurred at Pickwick on the farm of E. A. Gross, a number of years ago. A man emptied several barrels of frozen and rotten apples out where his cows had access to them. They seemed to have eaten freely of them and then as they were pastured on the northern side of a bluff, their excrement was dropped promiscuously around the pasture. Seeds from the apples took root, one and sometimes several in a place. They grew and came into bearing; all kinds in size, color and quality. Some were deliciously sweet, while some were a mild sub-acid and some sour; some were red, some yellow and some green. There were early harvest varieties and late keepers. Mr. Gross exhibited his apples at the state fair and at the meetings of the State Horticultural Society, where they attracted the attention of The Jewell Nursery Company, and they bought the right to propagate the different varieties, and many of the best kinds are being planted in Wabasha County and throughout the state. Another important addition to Wabasha County's fruit was the Homer Cherry introduced by a veteran horticulturist of Homer. He had a large orchard of them growing on his hill-side farm and when they were in blossom they colored the hill-side white and when the fruit was ripe, at a distance it looked as though it was painted red.

There is one place at the foot of Lake Pepin where the water never freezes and where the rising vapors off the water would furnish moisture for fruit growing on the adjacent land that also has a northern exposure. It is to be hoped that someone with capital will take advantage of this splendid location for a large commercial orchard.

From the State Horticultural Society's report I quote the following: "Elgin, Wabasha County, Feb. 12, 1866. Irwin W. Rollins reports: The oldest trees I have were grown from seed planted in 1856, were grafted in 1858 and planted in orchard in 1859. With my present knowledge I would plant Elgin, Malinda and Jewetts Red. Red Astrachan, Oscaloosa, Williams Favorite, Byhams Sweet, Pound Sweet would follow as next in hardiness. The varieties that have failed with me are Baldwin, Rhode Island Greening, Roxbury Russet, Golden Sweet, Hubbartson, None Such, Spitzenburg, Early Harvest, Porter, Gilliflower. In this section George Sylvester of Plainview and Nathan Fisher of Beaver have raised apples."

Mr. W. Golden writes: "Woodland, March 5, 1866. Mr. D. A. Robertson, Sir: In this section of the state there are several orchards in bearing. The largest is that of Mr. Stewart of Rollingstone. Mr. Geo. Sylvester has had a hundred trees in bearing for three years. Mr. Fisher of Woodland has an orchard of 100 trees that have borne for three years. My own experience is somewhat limited but I have set the Northern Spy, Yellow Bellflower, Red Astrachan, Golden Russet and Winter Greening. All are doing well."

From the above extracts we see how different the successful varieties of the day are from the kinds that were planted in those early days.

#### WABASHA COUNTY FARM BUREAU.

The Wabasha County Farm Bureau is a branch of a County, State and National Federation, all linked closely together, and officered by farmers and workingmen, promoting co-operative marketing, dairy improvement, better seed, better stock, and in fact "boosting" all progressive methods which are for the benefit of the farmer. The organization is non-religious, non-business and non-political, but is first, last and all the time a real agricultural organization so well organized as to command consideration before state and national legislative bodies when agricultural problems are involved. Strong efforts are being made to increase its membership, with gratifying results, the county agent



working in co-operation with representatives of the Bureau through personal solicitation. The Agriculture Extension Division is recommending that wool growers of each county form an association and pool their 1920 crop, the pool sent in by each farmer to retain its identity until graded, and the wool to be sold to the highest bidder. A Testing Association is being formed around Kellogg and Weaver for the purpose of finding unprofitable cows, obtaining better feeding and an increase in the product of butter fat and milk, and it is probable that similar associations will be formed in other parts of the county. The Bureau is also purchasing a great deal of seed for farmers with the object of obtaining better crop results.

### OSTEOPATHY.

By C. M. MacKenzie, D. O.

Osteopathy is a System of Therapeutics—Andrew Taylor Still the Founder—Importance of the Profession at the present time—The First Osteopaths in Minnesota—The Practitioners in Wabasha County.

In writing the local history of a comparatively new science, it might be well to give the reader a brief exposition of what Osteopathy is, who its founder was, and a word as to the scope of its application. A short but fairly comprehensive definition and description follows:

Osteopathy is the name of that system of the healing art, which places the chief emphasis on the structural integrity of body mechanism as being the most important single factor in maintaining the well being of the organism in health and disease; that nature has provided all the vital forces and chemicals necessary for the maintenance of health and the repair of diseased conditions. Health is natural, disease is unnatural. Disease or abnormal functioning is caused by an interference with the blood supply or blood drainage of the part diseased or by an interference with the normal and proper nerve impulses to that part or both.

Osteopathy has discovered that such interference is mechanical, due to contracted or tightened muscles or ligaments, or to the abnormal relations of the bones, the frame work upon which the soft tissues of the body depend for support and protection, such interference constituting what is known as an "Osteopathic Lesion." Owing to the fact that most of the nerves of the body come from the spine, and that the control of the blood supply to the various organs of the body is largely, if not wholly, through the nerves, osteopathic treatments are mainly given to the spine. It has become the duty of the Osteopathic Physician to discover the lesions in any particular case and to adjust such lesions to their normal anatomical relations, depending upon the fact that when structure has been made normal, the functioning or action of the parts will return to the normal.

The Osteopath, in treating a patient, only seeks to liberate the natural vital forces and chemicals; thereby assisting nature along natural paths to restore to normal balance, and function any parts which may be subject to disease. In the early days of Osteopathy cures were made chiefly in chronic diseases as people did not have sufficient confidence in the new system to allow the Osteopath to handle acute illnesses. But this is rapidly changing. People realize that the Osteopath can treat all acute diseases with marked results. During the Pandemic Influenza the Osteopaths had a chance to demonstrate their work to the public which showed how wonderful Osteopathy is in acute work.

Osteopathy built up its present standing by curing the incurable cases of old lines of treatment, and stands today a complete system of practice, treating successfully both acute and chronic diseases. Osteopathy then deals with the body as an intricate machine which, if kept in proper adjustments, nourished and cared for, will run smoothly into ripe and useful old age.

Osteopathy was discovered by Andrew Taylor Still. Dr. Still was a medical practitioner for many years, serving as surgeon in the Union Army during



the Civil War. Being a man with an analytical mind and gifted with that rare faculty, the ability to think along original lines, Dr. Still was not satisfied to allow the many failures of his own practice and those of his colleagues to go unexplained, but worked incessantly and studied deeply into the anatomy and physiology of the human body to determine if there was not some better and more effective way to relieve suffering humanity of its pains and infirmities. In 1874 he announced to his patients at Baldwin, Kansas, that he was done with drugs forever, and that he had evolved a system of drugless healing. For eighteen years the struggle was hard and bitter. He was ridiculed, maligned, and scoffed at, and met oppositions of the most determined sort. Deserted by relatives as well as friends, he moved with his family to Kirksville, Missouri, which place was to become the theater of his greatest achievements.

In 1892 he started a school at Kirksville for the purpose of teaching the new science to others. This school, known as the American School of Osteopathy, was the first school of the new system, and with a humble beginning and its dozen or so scholars, has grown to be a large college in the twenty-two years of its existence, having nearly 900 students in attendance and over 6,000 graduates. There are now several colleges of Osteopathy located in various parts of the country, all of which maintain a high standard of requirements and belong to the Associated Colleges of Osteopathy.

There are over Ten Thousand Osteopaths practicing in every state in the Union, in Canada, Mexico and the leading countries of Europe, Asia and South America. No system of therapy was ever granted public recognition and adoption so speedily and fully. Within fifteen years practically all the states of the Union have enacted laws placing the Osteopathic Physician on substantially the same legal plane as the old school practitioners.

There is an American Osteopathic Association with over eight thousand active members holding annual meetings in various of the large cities of the country. Among the many activities of the association is the financing and establishment of an institute for research work to be located in Chicago and to be known as the A. T. Still Research Institute. There are state associations in every state with subsidiary district, county and city societies. The first Osteopath in Minnesota was Dr. Chas. E. Still, a son of Dr. A. T. Still, who first located in Minneapolis in 1893, and afterwards practiced in Red Wing and St. Paul. There are now about two hundred Osteopaths in Minnesota and the number is being constantly augmented.

The history of Osteopathy in Wabasha County is necessarily brief. The Osteopaths of Wabasha County were Dr. Tedford, Dr. Crosser, Dr. Sayler and Dr. C. N. MacKenzie.









Hettie Dillon Sykes.



## CHAPTER XXV.

### BIOGRAPHY.

George W. Sylvester was one of that worthy band of pioneers who helped develop this region from an almost untrodden wilderness into the prosperous and productive farming country that it is today. He did his share of the hard work, he and his family took their share of the privations, hardships and inconveniences, and his name will long be held in honored remembrance. He performed efficient service on the town board in the early days, he took an active interest in public affairs, and his influence was ever on the side of those things which he believed to be just and right. George W. Sylvester was born at Phillips, Maine, the son of Caleb and Joanna (Whitney) Sylvester. Caleb Sylvester was a sturdy Maine farmer who achieved something of a name for himself as a mathematician and surveyor. In 1844 he brought his family to Wisconsin, took a farm near Platteville, and there devoted the remainder of his long and useful life to farming. Two of the sons, Charles and George W., the subject of this sketch, assisted their father on the farm, and when they attained suitable years, secured employment in the near-by lead mines. In 1851, thrilled with the story of the gold finds in California, the two brothers set out across the plains with an ox team bound for the Pacific coast. Three years of strenuous work in the gold fields netted them each \$2,000. There were many opportunities for them in that western country, but life so far away from home and kindred did not appeal strongly to them, so they started back to Wisconsin. With the memory of that long, dangerous trip across the wild plains clearly in their mind, they decided to make the return trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and accordingly set out by that route, but it was not until several months later, and after encountering many thrilling adventures, including a shipwreck, that the young men were once more at the parental fireside. A year later, in 1855, the two brothers came to Minnesota, and secured land in this county, George W. claiming the southeast quarter of section 25, in Plainview Township. That winter he spent with his parents in Wisconsin, was there married, and in the spring of 1856, with his bride, settled on his claim in this county. He built a house, started to develop his farm, and worked at his trade as a wagon-maker. In addition to this he also worked for his neighbors as a carpenter, so that many of the pioneer homes of the township still standing are the work of his hands, and a tribute to the skill, permanency and ability with which he wrought. In 1860 he erected on his farm the biggest barn in the neighborhood and painted it red, this "Big Red Barn" being a landmark in the township for many years. In 1875 he replaced his first home with the commodious farm house, which, enlarged and remodeled, is still standing. When the Woodland postoffice was established at his home he was made the first postmaster. As already mentioned, he was one of the early officers of the town. Fraternally he was affiliated with the Odd Fellows and the Masons. His religious faith was that of the Methodist Episcopal church. After a useful and well spent life he died September 6, 1876. His wife died in 1905. Mr. Sylvester was married March 18, 1856, to Matilda Cook, born in Waterloo Township, Province of Quebec, Canada, November 5, 1838, daughter of John Cook, a Canadian of Irish ancestry, who settled in Wisconsin in the early days. Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester were the parents of five children, Edwin L., Hattie A., George Franklin, Electa A., and Nellie M. Edwin L. and George F. are Plainview bankers. Hattie A. and Electa A. are dead.

Edwin L. Sylvester, president of the Plainview State Bank, and one of the leading citizens, as well as one of the prominent financiers of this region, is a native of Wabasha County, and descended from pioneer stock on both sides



of his house. His early career as agriculturist and educator gave him a splendid foundation for his later banking career which started when he was but little past the age of reaching his majority. Under his able guidance, his bank which is the oldest in the county, has also become one of the strongest. Mr. Sylvester has felt from the first that the interests of the bank and of the community were identical, and his constant efforts have been along the lines of the still further development and progress of the surrounding rural districts. Unostentatious in manner and retiring in disposition he has not cared to assume a prominent position in political life, but his good advice and keen judgment have exerted a powerful influence on the affairs of the community in which he has made his life-long home. Mr. Sylvester possesses those qualities which would have made him a leader in whatever sphere of life his duty might have called him to. Fate cast his lot in a pioneer community with whose growth to a prosperous, commercial and agricultural region he became identified, and in whose progress he has had a part. Here he has been content to live and labor, establishing an ideal home, giving his children a tender, intelligent, fatherly guidance, helping his fellow man as he has found the opportunity, taking up the tasks that have been nearest at hand, and shedding over the community the light of his kindly personality.

Edwin L. Sylvester was born in Plainview Township, March 16, 1859, son of George W. and Matilda A. (Cook) Sylvester, the pioneers. He attended the district schools of his neighborhood, and studied three years in the Plainview High School, supplementing this education with home study, wide reading and keen observation. With this preparation he taught school for two years. In the meantime his spare time had been spent in working on his father's farm. June 1, 1882, he became a clerk in the Plainview State Bank, and with the destinies of that institution, his name and personality have since been connected, so much so in fact, that the Plainview State Bank is more commonly known as the Sylvester Bank. He was promoted from clerk to teller and then to cashier, and in 1905 was elevated to his present position as president. Mr. Sylvester is a prominent Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge at Plainview, the Chapter, Commandery and Consistory at Winona, and Osman Temple at St. Paul. He has also passed through the chairs of the Odd Fellows' Lodge at Plainview. His religious faith is that of the Christian Church, in the affairs of which he has taken a leading part. Edwin L. Sylvester was married November 22, 1885, to Hettie L. Dillon, and this union has been blessed with five children: Nettie, Meta, Park D., Byrl E. and Edwin L., Jr. Nettie is the wife of James P. Caldwell, a physician and surgeon of St. Paul, Minn. Meta is the wife of Roy J. Holmes, a well-known educator. Byrl E., after a distinguished army record, gave his life in the cause of humanity in the world war. Park D. and Edwin L., Jr., are at home.

Hettie L. Dillon, now Mrs. Edwin L. Sylvester, was born at St. Lawrence, Jefferson County, N. Y., daughter of Albert and Helen P. (Goodenough) Dillon, April 6, 1863. Albert Dillon served in Co. E., 186th New York Volunteer Infantry, attained the rank of corporal, and was killed at the Battle of Petersburg, April 2, 1865. Thus left a widow, Mrs. Dillon later married R. W. Chapman, who brought the family to Minnesota in 1869, and settled on a farm near Elgin in this county. The young daughter, who was six years old when the family arrived, attended the schools of her neighborhood and graduated from the Plainview High School. Mrs. Sylvester has been active in all those lines which made for helpful motherhood and helpful womanhood. Her first interest has been her home, and to her family she devoted the major part of her time until the children began to reach more mature years. But this has not been the compass of her work. She is a pillar in the Christian Church, prominent in its various interests, superintendent of the Sunday school and president of its Ladies' Union. In the Eastern Star, the Rebekah Degree and the Ladies' Circle of the D. A. R. she has occupied the highest local offices. One of the founders









Byrd E. Sylvester



and a charter member of the Travelers Club, she helped shape its policies, as chairman of the entertainment committee for many years. In pursuing these various interests she has kept well abreast of those movements which are tending to enlarge woman's scope of influence, and the granting of suffrage rights to women has brought to her the high historical honor of being the first chairman of the Republican Ladies of Wabasha County.

**Byrl E. Sylvester**, holder of the French Croix de Guerre, bearer of an honorable record in the World War, and an inspiration force in volunteer recruiting in southeastern Minnesota, gave his life in the cause of humanity at the threshold of his manhood's career and left the memory of a noble and wholesome life that will be an incentive for good deeds to the youth of this vicinity for a generation to come. He was born in Plainview, October 28, 1892, the son of Edwin L. and Hettie L. (Dillon) Sylvester, passed through the graded schools of Plainview, graduated from the Plainview High School in 1914, entered the University of Minnesota, and there studied three years. While at the university he was popular with his associates, and was admitted to fellowship in the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. Returning to his home, he started what he planned as life work as a financier by becoming an assistant in the Plainview State Bank. He was thus employed when the United States entered the World War. Thrilled with a patriotism, which was the heritage from his long line of sturdy pioneer ancestors, he left his position in the bank, and on April 24, 1917, with a number of his college mates, entered the Norton-Harjes Ambulance Corps, leaving for France, where he spent five months in active Red Cross service, as an ambulance driver, until he was wounded in action September 12, 1917, the wound resulting from acts of great valor which won him the Croix de Guerre. After returning home to recover from his injuries, he had but one aim, that of returning to France to do his part in the great struggle. From the time of his return he was a changed man. That buoyant spirit he had carried all his life had left him. The stern realities of war and what it meant to the people of Belgium and France seemed always to be his foremost thought. He maintained a serious attitude, feeling that he owed a duty in returning to those war-ridden countries to aid in securing a permanent peace. As he regained his strength his chief thought was upon the war, and the sacred duty of doing all in his power for suffering France and Belgium. While still suffering from his weakness, he toured Minnesota, talking on the war, and inspiring many to enlist and do their share. After his recovery, though he was acquainted with all the horrors of war, and well knowing his possible fate, he could, nevertheless, remain home no longer. Consequently he re-enlisted for service, this time in the United States forces. Entering the Naval Air Service, he became a member of the first class of student pilots at Dunwoodie Institute, at Minneapolis, with the nominal rating of chief quartermaster. From the Dunwoodie Institute he went to the flying field of the Boston School of Technology, studying aviation as a member of the Naval Flying Corps. Later he was transferred to the Naval Aviation Station at Pensacola, Florida, where he would have completed his course and received his commission June 22, 1918. He was killed by a collision in mid-air, 700 feet from the earth, June 19, 1918. His body fell into the bay and was recovered. It was brought back to Plainview, and is laid to rest here. He was accorded full naval and military honors, and the sorrowing concourse which accompanied him to his last resting place embraced substantially the whole population of the vicinity, as well as distinguished people from all over the state.

The papers teemed with eulogies of his life and work. As a boy he had been studious, courteous, courageous and kindly, his unfailing cheerfulness and never flagging enthusiasm in study and work and play being a distinguishing characteristic. Lively and full of spirits, he was loved by his elders, and liked by his boy companions among whom he was a natural leader. As a young man, the esteem and liking of his friends and associates was deepened. Cut off as he was so early in life, nevertheless the span of his years held much of real benefit to his fellow man, and the world is better for his having lived.



Among the tributes is that of Will G. Mack in the Plainview News of June 28, 1918:

"We would be glad if we could say all that there is in our heart to say, but how shall a man enumerate the virtues of a friend or catalogue the factors of his affection? Yet we would like to have the world know him as we knew him. It is true he is gone, but his memory remains. What he was to each of us and what he was to his home will abide as a gracious recollection throughout all coming years. He will continue with us as a part of our experience and of our lives. In no other calling or pursuit do men learn so keenly and justly to appraise each other and to know and value them. Character in the arena is always subjected to the acid test and nowhere else are such warm and enduring friends formed as these which develop out of this great world struggle we are now experiencing.

"The extreme test now asked of our young men reveals not alone what flaws and defects there may be in life and character, but it brings out the strong qualities and the noble qualities of character as well. It is in that same test the record and character of Byrl E. Sylvester shine stainless and flawless. He was one of the strong young men, industrious, studious, tireless, a high type of American soldier. His life must serve both as an example and as an inspiration to the young men of America. He was considerate and courteous, sympathetic to a degree, and rejoiced in the service of his country. In his quiet way he was eager and anxious to do his bit.

"There is no man to whom this community turns with more profound respect than to our war hero. In all his efforts he was exact and painstaking and never spared himself. Few of us will ever forget his last appearance in Plainview. Though he had seen much of the great conflict and suffered from its pain, he gave no sign. He was cheerful, patient, polite through all. His devotion to duty, his stern sense of responsibility, his obedience to conscience, were so complete that all other considerations gave way for the task which he felt it was his duty to complete. He was modest and unobtrusive in his demeanor, but resolute and unswerving in maintaining a decision arrived at after reflection, and always ready to give a reason for the faith that was in him. He was a delightful and interesting companion, as will be attested by all who knew him well. He was an optimist, hopeful, not despondent. His whole philosophy of life was sweet and wholesome, and he lived up to his philosophy. Whether it was stormy or whether the sun was shining, his attitude was one of complacency, for he lived daily as one who did daily his daily task and left the consequences with God.

"We say he is dead, which is to say his soul has parted company with the tenement of clay; but the impulses he imparted to us shall continue to live in us and bear fruit, each after its kind; and we, in turn, shall pass them on to those that follow us. Our friend's body is gone, but his dreams of service and of human duty remain.

"His death not only brought the deepest sorrow and sadness to the paternal home, but has cast a gloom over the entire community. We are reminded in the sacrifice of this young man's life for his country that we live not in years, but in deeds, and the influence of his brave sacrifice upon our citizens and those of the state cannot be estimated. Realizing the sorrow it has brought in this home, and feeling the loss it has brought to our country, all extend heartfelt sympathy."

Another tribute was that in the Rochester Bulletin of June 25, 1918:

"To realize danger and then to fearlessly face it, that is heroism. Byrl Sylvester, returning to the conflict after he had received the scars of war and the honors of a nation, did not rest on these laurels, hard won as they were. The greatest thing in a life that was full of lessons was this young soldier's return to service that he might have still greater share in the world struggle to make men free. Undaunted and unafraid, he remained at home only long enough to recover from his wounds, then he was off to give his last full measure



of devotion. What greater tribute can his parents have than that of the officer who observed his spirit and testified his worth: 'He offered his services without compensation or reward, but for the good he might do. He richly deserved all the honor and credit than can be bestowed upon him.' The awful scenes of carnage on the fields of France, instead of inspiring dread and fear, but kindled a sort of divine fire in his soul—and he gave his all for the cause to which his country is committed. Such was the mettle of Byrl Sylvester, man and soldier."

Among the official documents in regard to Byrl E. Sylvester, two are of ever-increasing importance, and are here given in part, the first being the announcement of his death, and the second a translation of his citation:

"U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION,

"Pensacola, Florida, June 22, 1918.

"Mr. E. L. Sylvester,

"Plainview, Minnesota.

"My Dear Mr. Sylvester: In further connection with telegram sent you from this station, I am writing you additional details concerning the deplorable accident which resulted in the death of your son. The accident occurred at 6:30 a. m., June 19th, while Chief Quartermasters Sylvester and Blair were in formation flight together with two other planes. Your son was at an altitude of 700 feet, a few hundred yards in the rear of and 200 yards above the leader of the formation. Blair was on the same level as your son and a few hundred yards to the rear and to the left. The formation was making a right turn over the water near the station when your son's plane was seen to skid to the left and crash into Blair's plane while he was in the right turn. Your son's plane seemed to slow up because of the skid and thus Blair's plane hung up with him.

"It appears the pilots of both planes were intent upon following the leader and probably did not see each other until just before the crash. The planes immediately locked wings and swung around into a head-on collision, and instantly fell to the water, separating after having fallen several hundred feet. Your son's efficiency and aptitude have been so great that he was about to receive his commission in record time. He was one of our most promising young officers and his death was a sorrow to the whole station and a great loss to the Navy. In writing this letter I am endeavoring to do what I can to convey what little comfort is possible to the parents of this fine, patriotic young man who has given his life in the line of duty for his country in her great crisis. The whole station extends deepest sympathy to the parents of Byrl Edwin Sylvester, Chief Quartermaster, U. S. N. R. F.

"Very sincerely,

F. W. BENNETT,

"Captain, U. S. Navy, Commandant."

"SECOND ARMY CORPS, HEALTH DIRECTOR'S OFFICE.

"No. 1719-P, Extract from Order No. 65.

"The head physician of the First Class petit, Director of Health Service of the 2nd Army Corps, submits a citation corresponding to the Order of the Regiment:

"American Section No. 62, commanded by the French Lieutenant, Pierre Hivonnait and the associated American commander, H. Ronald Pearce, for having distinguished himself by his indefatigable spirit, his absolute contempt of danger, his service with a coolness and courage worthy of all praise, in a sector under constant bombardment in the course of attacks from July 31 to August 2, and the first days of September, 1917, when one driver was killed and three wounded at an advanced post.

"R. P. Hall, American driver of the S. S. U-62, Mle. 2969.—'Very courageous and devoted. Killed at his post, September 12, 1917.'

"B. E. Sylvester, American driver of the S. S. U-62, Mle. 2974.—'Full of courageous ardor and devotion; wounded at his post, September 12, 1917.'

"At. Q. G., September 17, 1917.

"Head Physician First Class Petit.

"Director of Health Service 2nd Army Corps.

"(Signed) DEDEU.



"For transmission to those interested."

This appreciation of the life and work of a noble young man may well be closed with the heartfelt lines written by one who loved and admired him since his boyhood days:

Dedicated to Byrl E. Sylvester.

(Who Died June 19, 1918.)

By MRS. J. N. BATES.

The stars of blue on our service flag,  
So soon are changing to shining gold,  
And tell of the hearts whose lives are done—  
While they on our hearts are enrolled.

Proudly they went when the colors called—  
But how soon the sad story is told;  
That one has died for the dear old flag,  
And his blue star gives way to the gold.

Among the boys who crossed to France,  
To rescue the wounded, the dying,  
Was our dear, brave Byrl, who, under fire,  
Hastened to where the wounded were lying.

Went through the storms of bursting shells  
To save many an unknown brother,  
Brought them in safety to Red Cross Aid,  
Ready, if need be, to die for others.

It was not for him to fall in France,  
Though for weeks 'mong the wounded he lay,  
Then the good ship brought him safely home,  
And 'twas hoped he'd be willing to stay.

But no! The colors kept calling,  
And with patriotism all aglow,  
He rose in the strength of his manhood,  
And said: "I know that I must go."

The first of our boys to cross to France,  
The first of our boys to lie wounded,  
The first to receive the French Croix de Guerre,  
The second to die to the flag.

On that fateful morn, in the early grey,  
When the fogs lay thick and dark like a pall,  
He soared in his place up through the clouds,  
And the watchers below saw him fall.

Before he had reached ambition's goal,  
Or gained the hoped for reknown,  
He had reached the heights more glorious,  
And received the Hero Martyr's crown.

Brave Byrl, we will never forget thee,  
Thy memory in our hearts we'll enfold,  
Ye died for our flag and our homeland,  
Now we'll give thee thy star of gold.



**Archie G. Blowers**, a representative farmer of Plainview Township, was born in Olmsted County, Minnesota, September 21, 1882, son of Morris L. and Lottie A. (Brink) Blowers. When two years old he moved with his parents across the line into Wabasha County, and subsequently became a pupil in the Woodland district school. He grew to manhood on his parent's farm, on which he has always remained. On his father's death in July, 1912, he became its manager and has since operated it very successfully, having also made some decided improvements on it. The property now comprises 152½ acres, consisting of the old home farm of 105 acres, 65 of which are in Plainview Township, and 40 in Quincey Township (Olmsted County), and 47½ acres which he owns in Quincey Township. Mr. Blowers is following general diversified farming according to modern and scientific methods, and with good pecuniary results. He keeps a good grade of stock, including Poland-China swine, and is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America, while politically he is a Republican. He was married February 26, 1913, to Mary Viola Duerrwaechter, daughter of William and Sarah Duerrwaechter, farmers of Plainview Township. He and his wife are affiliated with the Methodist church.

**Morris L. Blowers**, who for many years was a well known and respected citizen of Wabasha County, was born in Oneida County, New York, January 2, 1856. When nine years old he was brought by his father, John Blowers, to Minnesota, who settled on land in Quincey Township, Olmsted County. There Morris attended the rural schools and was trained to agricultural pursuits. In 1880 he began farming on his own account, in Olmsted County, whence he removed in April, 1884, to Wabasha County, buying a farm of 105 acres, 40 acres of which lies over the line in Olmsted County. Here he succeeded in building up a good farm and establishing a comfortable home. He became prominent in agricultural circles and was always ready and willing to support every good cause that stood for right and justice. His untimely death, on July 22, 1912, when he was killed by one of the animals on his farm, caused great sorrow in the community and was a severe blow to his loving wife and children. The farm is now operated by his only son, Archie G. Mr. Blowers was married September 21, 1880, to Lottie A. Brink, who was born in Quincey Township, Olmsted County, Minn., May 21, 1862, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Brink, who settled in that county in 1862. The issue of this marriage was two children: Archie G., born September 21, 1882; and Sarah E., born November 15, 1885. Both reside on the home farm with their mother.

**William P. Duerrwaechter**, who for 17 years was numbered among the hard-working and thriving farmers of Plainview Township, was born in Kiel, Wis., November 13, 1863. He was educated in his native state, where he subsequently learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for 11 years at Colgate, Wis. In 1897 he came to Wabasha County, and a year later bought a farm of 80 acres in section 34, Plainview Township. The buildings consisted principally, or entirely, of a small log house and a small barn, which he utilized for some years, working hard to develop the place. By 1910, having made considerable progress, he found himself able to provide a better residence, and accordingly erected a nice eight-room frame house, equipped with the most essential modern conveniences. In 1915 he built a new barn, 30 by 50 feet, with basement. Besides carrying on the farm he worked at intervals at his trade of carpenter, building a number of houses, barns and other structures throughout this part of the county, the quality of his work bringing him plenty of contracts. His labors were terminated by his death on July 27, 1915, when he was in his fifty-second year, and with his passing Plainview Township lost one of its worthy and respected citizens. Mr. Duerrwaechter was married December 30, 1886, to Sarah Marshman, who was born in Richfield, Washington County, Wis., April 11, 1867. The issue of this marriage was nine children: Fred, born February 1, 1890; Viola, January 18, 1892; George, February 11,



1894; Helen, October 9, 1896; Clara, February 28, 1899; Mamie, August 2, 1902; Lydia, December 7, 1904; Eugene, July 17, 1907; and Edna, December 28, 1909. Of these nine children seven are now living, the five youngest, together with George, residing on the home farm. Helen died October 6, 1901, when nearly five years old. Fred, who served in the recent war with Germany as a member of Company B, 350th U. S. Infantry, died in France of pneumonia on January 21, 1919, his death adding one more name to the list of those brave American youths who perished in the service of their country. Mrs. Duerrwaechter and the surviving members of the family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. They are well known and enjoy a high degree of social popularity.

**George Franklin Sylvester**, a prominent business man of Plainview, cashier of the Plainview State Bank, was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, July 20, 1862, son of George W. Sylvester. After acquiring his education in the Plainview public schools, he went to Madison, Wis., where he learned telegraphy. From 1882 to 1886, he was employed as telegraph operator at various places for the Great Northern Railroad. On June 6, 1886, he became station agent at Milaca on the Fergus Falls Division of the Great Northern, and was thus employed until March 17, 1897. In that year he became associated with his brother in the Plainview Bank, becoming cashier, a position which he still retains. On July 1, 1906, the bank was organized as the Plainview State Bank, and as such is conducting a safe, conservative and profitable business, Mr. Sylvester's ability and personality being among its assets. Mr. Sylvester is also interested in other important enterprises, among which are valuable farm holdings, and his position as representative for the New York Life Insurance Company. He was one of the organizers of the Wabasha County Fair Association, of which he was secretary for fourteen years and is now an honorary member. He is a member and trustee of the First Congregational Church at Plainview, and for twenty years has been a member and secretary of the Board of Education of Plainview, and as such is still serving. On January 1, 1886, Mr. Sylvester was united in marriage with Catherine M. Whilt, who was born in Maywood Township, Benton County, Minn., in March, 1869, being the first white child born in that township. She was well educated in the public schools of her home county and was also a student in the Northfield public schools. After her marriage to Mr. Sylvester she took up and learned the art of telegraphy under her husband, and for six years subsequently was operator at Milaca, proving her efficiency by completely handling the business pertaining to thirty trains a day. Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester have been the parents of five children: Leon C., Anna S., Beatrice, Kathryn S. and Marian F. Of these Leon C. and Beatrice are now deceased. Anna S., after graduating from the high school, took a course at Oberlin College. She is now the wife of R. J. R. Baker, a prominent farmer of Rock Island County, Ill. Kathryn S., after graduating from the Plainview high school in the class of 1918, was a student for one year at Hamline College, and is now doing laboratory work in the Mayo clinic at Rochester, Minn. Marian F. is a senior in the Plainview high school. The business achievements of the subject of this sketch, together with the educational and social acquirements of the members of his family, have placed the Sylvesters on a high plane in the community, of which they are useful members.

**August F. Goetz**, an early settler in Plainview Township, where for 43 years he was engaged in agricultural pursuits, and who is now living retired in Plainview Village, was born in Germany, September 20, 1844. Educated in his native land, he came to America in 1869, a young man of 25 years, and for about a year resided in Wisconsin. It was in 1870 that he arrived in Plainview Township. After working out for a year, he rented a farm and engaged in agriculture on his own account, operating his place under rental for five years. He then bought 80 acres in section 7, Plainview, a tract with poor buildings,





Geo. A. Hester

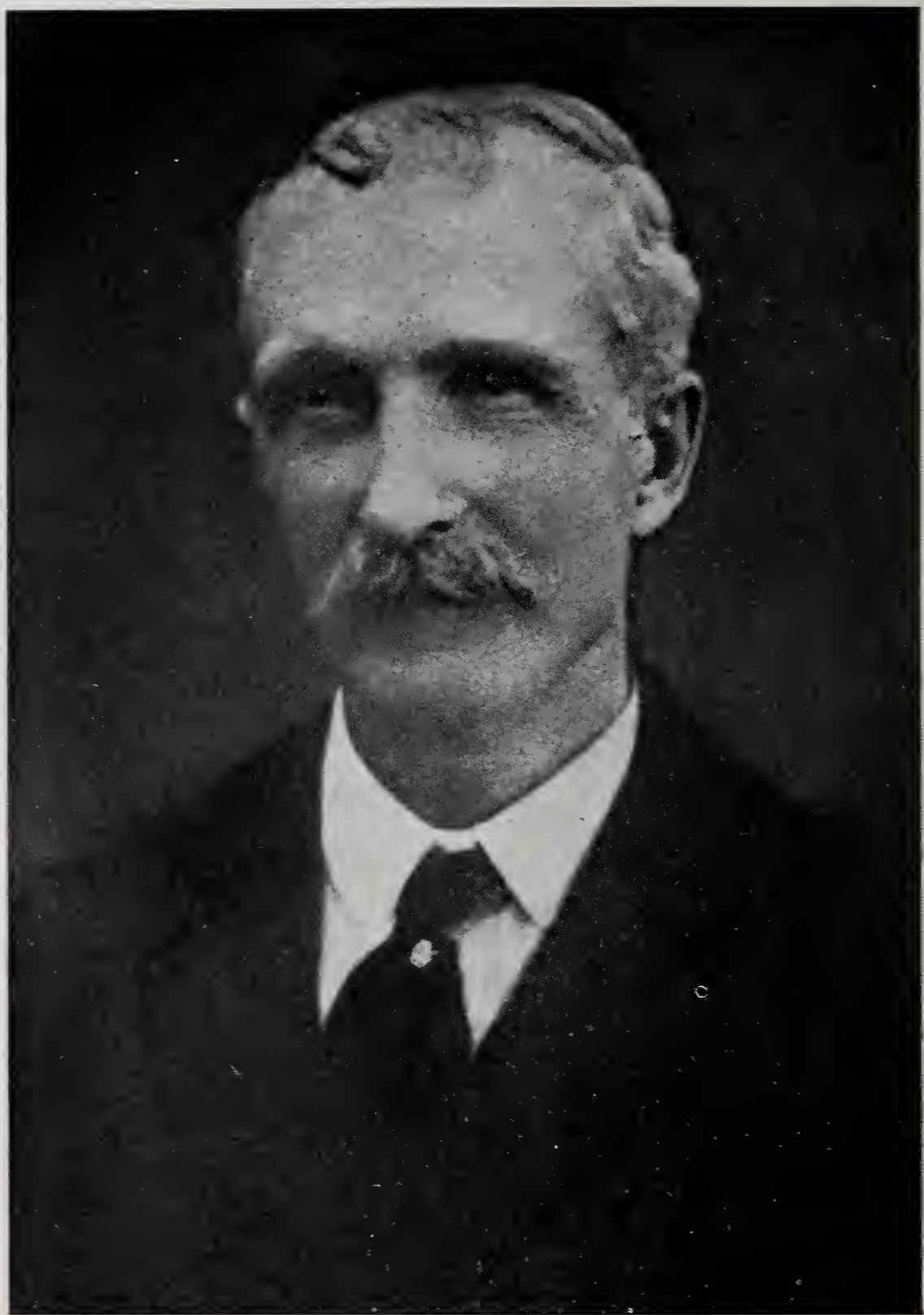












JOHN A. LA CRAFT



but on which he lived for five years. Selling it at the end of that time, he bought 160 acres in section 29, Plainview, this being an improved farm, on which also he resided for five years, carrying on general farming. The next place he purchased was a farm of 160 acres in section 28, and here he made his home until his retirement in 1913, a period of about 17 years. During that time he carried on mixed farming, improving his property and adding to his land until he had 625 acres, all in Plainview Township. His career was an industrious and successful one, and he built up a good home. He has sold all his land except his residence property in Plainview, where he spends his summers, making his home in California in the winter. He and his family are affiliated with the German Lutheran church. Mr. Goetz was married October 3, 1871, to Rosa Wandray, who died January 1, 1918. They were the parents of twelve children: Adeline, now Mrs. John Eggare of Plainview; Fred, residing in Plainview Township; Emma, wife of Henry Boice of Elgin Township; Laura, now deceased, who was the wife of John Hadley of Plainview; Otilia, now Mrs. William Boehlke of Plainview; Albert, residing in Plainview Township; August, Jr., of Plainview Township; Elsie, wife of Henry Beneke, of South Dakota; Edward, of Plainview Township; Ernest, a shoe merchant in Plainview; Arthur, of Plainview Township, and Elna, now Mrs. Henry Knocke, of South Dakota. Mr. Goetz and his family are members of the German Lutheran church.

**Fred G. Goetz**, who for a number of years has been identified with the agricultural interests of Plainview Township, was born in this township October 28, 1873, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Goetz, Sr. He acquired his education in the public schools of the township, which he attended for the usual period, and on his parents' farm under his father's mentorship acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture and stock raising. Until 1897 he remained on the home farm in section 30, and then purchased from his father 160 acres in section 30, Plainview Township, which he has since been engaged in operating. On this property he has made valuable improvements, having erected the present residence, put in water-works and a general modern equipment. In addition to the usual grains, he is raising cabbage and onions. Since starting in for himself, Mr. Goetz has been an industrious worker, and his efforts have borne such good fruits that he has recently sold his farm with the intention of retiring in the fall of 1920. He was married March 12, 1901, to Bertha Sagissor of Wabasha, who was born June 7, 1874. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Elsie A., born June 26, 1903; William G., November 11, 1904; and Evelyn E., March 15, 1909. William G. is now a student in the high school. Mr. Goetz and his family are members of the Lutheran church. He has long occupied a prominent place in the community as an able representative of its most important industry, and he and his family are highly esteemed.

**Christie M. MacKenzie, D. O.**, of Plainview, a skilled practitioner of the modern science of osteopathy, was born at Plato, Minn., March 25, 1889, daughter of Donald and Annie (McNeil) MacKenzie. She was graduated from Plato high school in the class of 1905, and then entered the general hospital at St. Peter, where she received three years' training as nurse, being graduated in 1908. During the seven years following she followed nursing as a profession. Then, in 1915, she entered the American School of Osteopathy, at Kirksville, Mo., and after being three years a student, was graduated with the class of 1918. Beginning practice in her home town, she remained there three months, at the end of which time she came to Plainview and opened her present office in the F. J. Cornwall building, where she is making a specialty of the diseases of women and children, though also engaged in general practice. She has not yet lost a case, and her remarkable success has not only called public attention to the method of healing she practices, but has also gained for her a wide personal reputation and increased the number of her patients. The article on osteopathy presented in this work was prepared by her.

**John A. La Craft** was for some thirty years a vital part of the business development of Plainview, and his life and work are intimately interwoven



into the very fabric of the history of the village. He was known to all, he was the friend of all, and his genial disposition and helpful spirit were a blessing to those with whom he came in contact. His memory will remain as a pleasing fragrance in the souls of those who came to know him intimately. Born in Boltonville, Wisconsin, November 11, 1856, the son of John and Mary La Craft, his boyhood was spent in his native village, where he received his youthful education. From that place he went to Clark, South Dakota, and there engaged in the jewelry business. In the year 1889 he came to Plainview, then a flourishing village, where he entered the employ of the now historic firm of Landon & Burchard. A few years later he bought out his employers and then continued in business until his lamented death, April 10, 1919. Thus briefly is told the career of a truly good and useful man. In building up his own success he was ever mindful of the happiness and welfare of others, he took a deep interest in all that tended toward the betterment of the community, and he was beloved by old and young alike. As a man he stood high in the estimation of all. He was a loving husband and wisely indulgent father, he possessed a deep religious spirit and labored for the advancement of the church, he was of a fraternal disposition and faithful to his duties to the lodges, he was a useful citizen and believed thoroughly in conservative municipal improvement. In the Methodist Episcopal church he was an active official. In the Masonic, Odd Fellow and Modern Woodmen lodges he held various offices. Of him the public press has very appropriately said: "John A. La Craft was one of our most highly honored citizens, who will be greatly missed by the people of this community. He leaves behind a host of friends. His main characteristics were his sunny disposition, his companionable attitude, and his faith in mankind which never faltered. He possessed a true, rare faculty of making friends and holding them steadfastly, and maintained this to the last. He displayed outwardly his love for home, love for family and love for the townspeople; and his closer companionships, love for the community in which he so happily spent so many years of his life. All that are left behind of the thoughts and memory of a true and upright citizen will live on forever, and for all of these his life on earth will remain exemplary. His friends were numerous; appreciating all and blessing all, with his strong religious feeling, and faith in his Creator, he passed to the Great Beyond to receive the reward of the larger life." Mr. La Craft was married March 1, 1893, to Caroline Nicolay, by whom he had two children, Wyatt and Doris. The wife died July 1, 1901, his daughter Doris July 5 of the same year, and the son, Wyatt, April 2, 1918. Mr. La Craft was married August 27, 1906, at Minneapolis, to Ida Husby, who was born at Read's Landing, February 28, 1873, the daughter of John and Mary (Solberg) Husby, and this union was blessed with one daughter, Margaret, born November 21, 1910. Mrs. Ida Husby La Craft was reared in her native village and there attended the public school, graduating in the class of 1890. She then entered the normal school and was graduated from the kindergarten department, and for the following nine years followed teaching in the public schools at Plainview, both in the kindergarten and the grades. Mrs. La Craft is a lady of sterling qualities, interested in church and club work and music. She is a member of the Eastern Star Lodge and for several years served as organist of the local order. She is also an active member and worker in the Methodist Episcopal church. She was one of the instigators and organizers of the Travelers' Club, in which she is an active worker, and is a member of the church choir. Her home on Jefferson street is noted for its hospitality and good cheer.

**Lawrence Amman**, an elderly and well known resident of Plainview, where he is now living retired after a long, active and useful career devoted chiefly to agriculture, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., August 10, 1847, son of Serofin and Mary (Snell) Amman. The parents were natives of France who came to America in 1846, locating in Washington County, Wisconsin, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm. Lawrence Amman in his boyhood attended



the district school and remained at home until 16 years old. He then went to Michigan Lake, remaining one year, after which, in 1871, he came to Minnesota, and for three years followed various occupations, including farming, blacksmithing, and logging in the pineries. In 1874 he located in Highland Township, where he rented a farm for three years. Then, in 1877, he bought 80 acres in section 30, Plainview Township, and began the task of developing it into a good farm. In time he erected a good set of buildings, including a comfortable residence, put up fences, and installed modern machinery. He also purchased more land, increasing the area of the farm to 200 acres, and on it he followed general agriculture successfully until 1907. As he was by that time becoming advanced in years, he sold the place to his sons and retired, purchasing his present home in Plainview Village, where he and his wife are passing the evening of life in comfort and prosperity, respected and esteemed by their neighbors and numerous friends. The marriage of Mr. Amman occurred June 20, 1877, his bride being Catherine Georges. She was born in France, July 21, 1851, and came to America in 1874. They have two children, Felix N. and John. Felix N., born March 26, 1879, owns and resides on a part of the old Amman farm in Plainview Township. He married Mary Mellville, and has two children, Katherine and Ruth. John, the second son, who was born May 7, 1891, owns and operates the rest of the Amman farm above mentioned. He married Addie Stoltz, and has two children, Harry and Ruby. The family is affiliated religiously with the Catholic church, and Mr. Amman, the subject of this sketch, belongs also to the Knights of Columbus.

**Paul E. Schmidt**, one of the prominent farmers of Plainview Township, was born in Germany, December 3, 1878, son of Fred and Minnie Schmidt. The father died in Germany and the mother later became the wife of Carl Fick. Paul E. received a good education in his native land and also in America. His instruction in languages was especially thorough, and he can read and write in German, English and Spanish. Mr. Schmidt came to this country in 1891, locating first on Oak Ridge, Winona County, Minn. In 1900 he enlisted in the Fifth Cavalry Troup of the U. S. regular army and subsequently served three years in the Philippine Islands, being honorably discharged in 1903. In 1905 he bought his present farm, or, rather 30 acres, later adding ten acres more, thus making a farm of 40 acres. Fifteen acres, including the residence, lie in section 35, Plainview Township, the other 25 acres being in section 2, Quincey Township, Olmsted County. On this land Mr. Schmidt is engaged in diversified farming, his principal stock consisting of Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs. Though his farm is small it is highly cultivated, and he has made many improvements on it. He is energetic and industrious, a good, practical farmer, and is highly respected. Into his life has entered more of adventure than falls to the lot of the average man. He has seen some interesting parts of the world, and taken an active and honorable part in making world history. Mr. Schmidt was married January 15, 1908, to Hannah Zimmerman, who was born in Minnesota City, Winona County, Minn., April 29, 1889. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

**Frederick C. Dickman**, an early settler in Zumbro Township, was born in Germany, June 13, 1837, son of George Christian and Phoebe Dickman. The parents were married about 1831, and came to the United States about 1853, settling in Illinois for a time, owning a farm on the site of the present city of Chicago. In 1856 they came with their family to Wabasha County, Minn., taking land on Greenwood Prairie, near Millville, in the western part of Oakwood Township. There they farmed until about 1865, when they turned the farm over to their third son, P. G. Dickman, who had just returned from the war, and retired, taking up their residence in Winona, where George C. Dickman died September 23, 1895, at the age of 89 years and 6 months, and his wife about 3 years before, at the age of 89 years. Frederick C. Dickman was about 19 years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County. He assisted



his father in the pioneer labor of clearing the land, erecting buildings, and planting crops, and remained at home for some six years. Then, ambitious to establish a home of his own, he married, in 1862, Mary M. Scherenbouken, and took 160 acres of land in Zumbro Township. There he farmed until February 3, 1869, when death called him from his labors. His wife, Mary, born December 14, 1842, had come to this country from Hanover, Germany, when ten years old with her only brother, who, when the Civil War broke out, enlisted in the army and was killed. She resided first in Sheboygan, Wis., subsequently moving from that place to Fountain City, Wis., and thence to Winona, Minn., being married to Frederick C. Dickman in 1862, as previously mentioned. By him she had three children: George H., born February 9, 1863; Dorothy W., July 9, 1865; Matilda A., November 3, 1867. Of these children, George H. is now a prominent merchant of Plainview. Dorothy W. was married in 1884 to John L. Petrich, and has had eight children, namely: Matilda A., Linda (now Mrs. Ed Dickman), Mollie, Claudena, twin daughters, who died in infancy, and twin sons, Alvin and Elmer. Matilda Dickman, who became the wife of Adolph Timm, died February 19, 1891, leaving one child, Emma, now the wife of William Peterson of Huron, S. D. On March 26, 1870, Mrs. Mary M. Dickman, widow of Frederick C. Dickman, married for her second husband, Hans Eggers, who was born in Germany, December 7, 1843, and they resided on the Dickman farm in Zumbro Township until 1877, when they moved to the township of Elgin. In 1898 they moved to Plainview Village, where they are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Eggers have been the parents of eight children: Frederick W., born February 3, 1871 (died at the age of three years and eight months); Jurgen H., born February 7, 1873; Theresa C., born February 2, 1876; Emma L., born December 31, 1877; Adelia E., born June 28, 1880; Ernest L., born July 20, 1882 (died June 26, 1883); Edwin E., born January 8, 1885; and Nettie L., born May 5, 1888 (died May 16, 1889). Of the surviving members of the Eggers family the following is a further record: Jurgen H. Eggers, who worked some time for F. J. Cornwell & Co., later started in the jewelry business which he is now conducting in Plainview. He married Maggie Burnham, and they have one son, Everett. Theresa C. Eggers married John R. Johnson and is now in the millinery business in Huron, S. D. Emma L. Eggers, who married William Dobrenz, of Elgin, Minn., has three children: Lloyd, Leslie and Margaret. Adelia E. Eggers is the wife of Fred Petrich and resides at Owatonna, Minn. Mr. Petrich for a number of years worked for F. J. Cornwell & Co., but is now a traveling salesman for Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago. Edwin E. Eggers is residing with his father and mother in Plainview.

**George H. Dickman**, one of the leading merchants in Wabasha County, proprietor of a large clothing and furnishing store in Plainview, and also of another at Pine Island, Minn., was born on his grandfather's farm in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, February 9, 1863, son of Frederick C. and Mary M. (Scherenbouken) Dickman. He was educated in the school of his district and in that at Plainview, and his early years were spent on the farm, which he left at the age of 19 to work for William Koenig in the latter's general store at Plainview, his compensation being \$15 a month and his board. He was thus employed until April 11, 1887, at which time he started to work for F. J. Cornwell & Co. After being with that concern for several years in a subordinate position, he secured a working interest, and was placed in charge of the dry goods and clothing department, remaining with the company until September 15, 1901. He then entered into business for himself, opening his present store in Plainview, dealing in men's furnishings, haberdashery, trunks, grips, etc. Starting in a small way, he managed his business with such good judgment that his trade increased at a rapid rate, and attained large proportions. In 1913 he bought another store at Pine Island, purchasing the Stoffel stock, to which he made considerable additions, and remodeling the store, which is now under the management of his son, Franklin A. Dickman. He carries approxi-





*Geo. H. Dickman*













Emma Dickman



mately \$80,000 worth of stock in both stores, and honorable dealing and courteous treatment of customers have brought him a large and profitable trade. In addition to his large mercantile interests, Mr. Dickman is the owner of one farm in Olmsted County and four in Wabasha County, having a total area of 720 acres. The official positions he has held, or is now holding, make up a long list. He was first president of the Wabasha County Retail Merchants' Association, when first organized; president of the Minnesota Retail Clothiers' organization, of which he was one of the charter members, having since served on the executive board; chairman of the State Legislative Committee of the Minnesota Retail Clothiers' Association; also a member of the Vigilance Committee and a member of the Legislative Committee of the National Retail Clothiers' Association. He has been a member of the village school board for about 20 years, and president of the board about 13 years, and is also president of the Business Men's Club; was president of the Plainview Hospital board, and was president of the Wabasha County Fair the year it first opened on its present grounds. He is also president of the Plainview Automobile Club. His religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church, of which he is a member and liberal supporter, also serving in the office of trustee. These various positions Mr. Dickman has held not merely for the honor, but for the opportunity of useful service, doing real work in each, and his record is one of which his fellow citizens are proud. Mr. Dickman assumed the responsibilities of domestic life on February 13, 1885, when he was married, at Willow Creek, Blue Earth County, Minn., to Emma Grieger, who was born at Beaver Dam, Wis., December 7, 1864, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Grieger. Her parents were both born in Germany, the father on June 12, 1836, and the mother June 15, 1845. The father died December 19, 1914, and the mother June 21, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Dickman have been the parents of five children: Harry T., born January 18, 1888 (died February 2, 1888); Franklin A., born December 10, 1889; Alvin G., born February 2, 1891; Vera M., born April 4, 1893; and Leona E., born August 9, 1895. Franklin A. Dickman was graduated from the Plainview high school and took a one year's business course at the Gem City Business College of Quincy, Ill. As previously mentioned, he is manager of his father's store at Pine Island, of which he took charge in 1913. He was married at Trempealeau, Wis., August 14, 1913, to Clara Carhartt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Carhartt of that place. They have had three children: George C., born December 29, 1914; a son, born September 19, 1916; who died the day after his birth; and another son, born August 26, 1918, who died September 11, 1918. Alvin G. Dickman was educated in the common school and Plainview high school, also taking a commercial course of one year in the La Crosse Business College. He has since been connected with the Dickman store in Plainview. He was married October 4, 1919, to Ruth Brown, of Long Beach, Calif. On August 8, 1917, Alvin G. Dickman enlisted at Winona, Minn., for service in the war with Germany, and served in England and France. He left the United States October 13, 1917, and arrived in this country on his return, March 13, 1919, receiving his discharge April 1, 1919. His service was with the 93d Aero Pursuit Squadron, and he was made sergeant December 1, 1917.

Vera M. Dickman, after graduating from the Plainview high school, studied music for one year in Carleton College, and for three years in Chicago. She has taken up Chautauqua and lyceum work, and is at present with the Redpath Lyceum Bureau.

Leona E. Dickman was graduated from the Plainview high school and subsequently from the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., receiving a diploma for proficiency in public school music. It will thus be seen that all the children in the Dickman family have been educationally well equipped for the battle of life, and fitted to do their part in the channels they have marked out for themselves. The present demands more than the past, and the



future may be still more exacting, but with their father's example before them, they will doubtless render a good account of themselves.

**Albert L. Swanson**, a well known and respected citizen of Plainview Township, who is profitably engaged in agriculture, operating 168 acres of land, was born in Minneiska, Wabasha County, Minn., October 7, 1875, son of August and Mary (Carlson) Swanson. The parents were natives of Sweden, where they were married. They came to the United States about 1865, locating in Minneiska, this county, where August Swanson engaged in farming till about 1880. He then moved with his family to Beaver in Winona County, where he continued in the same occupation until his death in 1902. His wife is still living, being a resident of Plainview. They had ten children: Edward, Charles, Gusta, Mary, Albert L., Emil., Oscar, Henry, Walter and Arthur. Albert L. Swanson in his boyhood attended school in Beaver and remained at home until 21 years old assisting his father. For the next ten years he worked out on farms, after which for four years he operated a rented farm in Plainview Township. From that place he removed to another farm, four miles east of Plainview, which he operated for five years. Then in 1911 he bought 78 acres of land in section 14, Plainview Township, on which were some slight improvements. This place he began to develop, putting a basement under the barn, and in 1912 building a residence. In 1908 he bought 90 acres in section 17, White-water Township, Winona County, which he works together with his home farm, also operating 40 acres which he rents of Ed Schultz. He is a member of the Plainview Creamery Association and of the Plainview Shipping Association, and as a general farmer has made an unqualified success. As a stock raiser he gives his attention to Holstein and Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine, while in addition to grain he raises cabbage, potatoes and sweet corn, for all of which he finds a ready market and good prices. He is a member of the town board and is also serving as constable. On September 15, 1902, Mr. Swanson was united in marriage with Anna Rosenberg, who was born in Germany October 2, 1881. Their union has been blessed with five children: Percy A., born August 27, 1903; Harold E., October 26, 1904; Kenneth A., March 5, 1906; Ralph E., June 4, 1908; and Violet I., June 6, 1912. Mr. Swanson and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

**Ernest Arthur Wedge**, a representative citizen of Plainview Township, profitably engaged in its leading industry, agriculture, was born in Dodge County, Wis., November 12, 1872, son of James and Isabelle (Cheseboro) Wedge. At the age of four years he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, and a few years later took his place among the pupils in the district school. In 1892 he was graduated from the Plainview high school, after which he spent a year at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. Thus mentally equipped for the business of life, he rented his father's farm of 100 acres in section 29, Plainview Township, where he has since been engaged in general agriculture, including truck farming, giving special attention at present to the raising of cabbage and onions, and keeping Jersey cattle, dairying being an important part of his business. He is a member of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Association, and his operations are being conducted with profitable results. As a live citizen, interested in the affairs of the community, Mr. Wedge has given a part of his time to public affairs, having served as town treasurer three years, and for the past ten years as treasurer of School District No. 61.

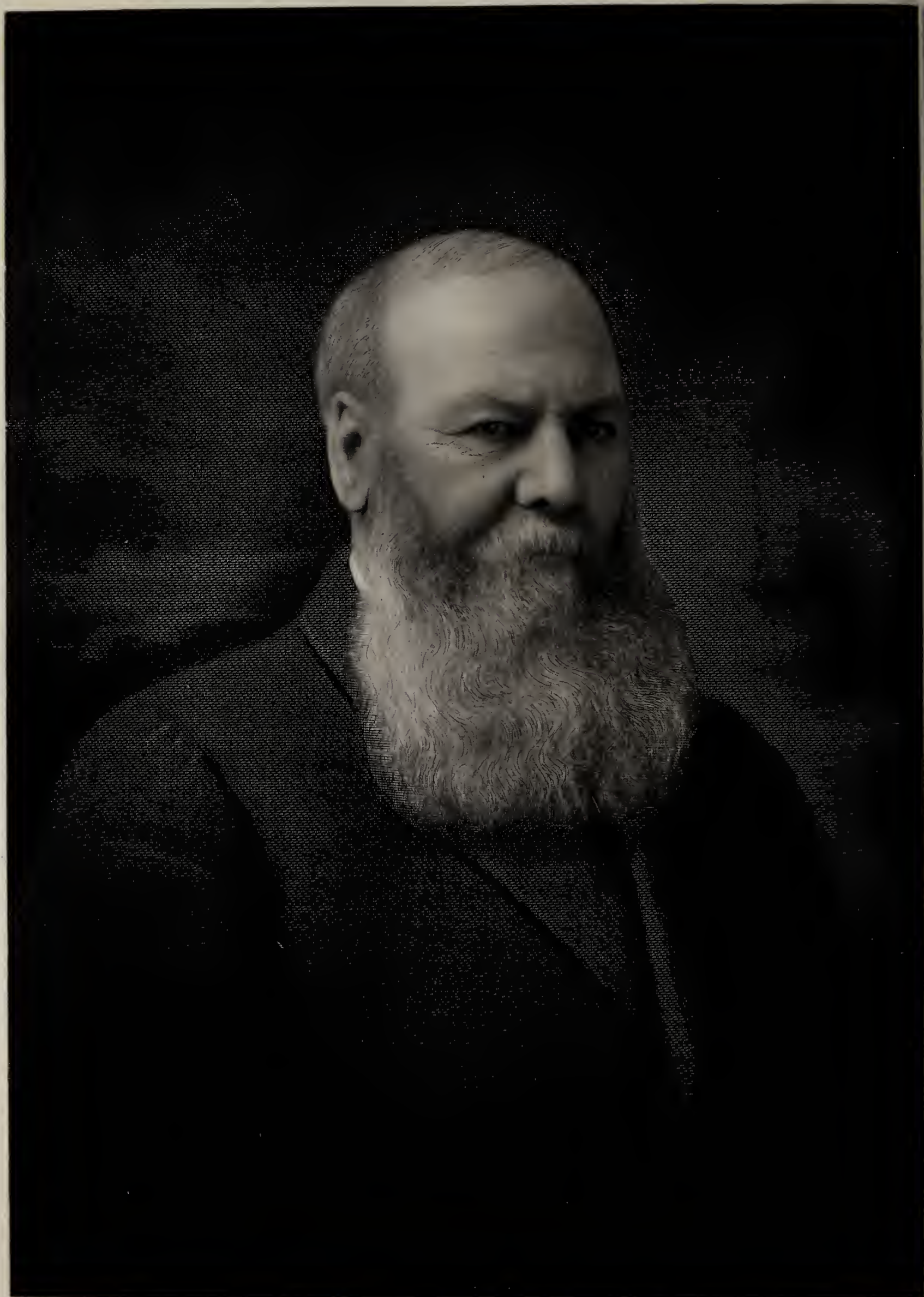
He was married September 29, 1897, to Jennie B. Reich, who was born March 7, 1875, daughter of Herman and Anna (Mathews) Reich of Plainview. The home circle of Mr. and Mrs. Wedge has been broadened and brightened by the birth of three children: Josephine I., born June 16, 1903, who is a student in the Plainview High School; Ellen M., born January 23, 1906, who is a student in the grade school; and Harry J., born April 3, who is attending the district school.

**H. Cowan Anderson**, who for the last 25 years has successfully followed the occupation of contractor and builder, in Plainview, was born in Prince









C. S. Amor



Edward Island, Canada, December 13, 1869, son of H. D. and Margaret (Webster) Anderson. The parents were both natives of Canada. The father in early life was a school teacher, but subsequently made agriculture his regular occupation. In 1890 he went to the Pacific coast states, but later returned to Canada, where he died in 1916. His wife died when her son, the subject of this sketch, was only two weeks old. H. Cowan Anderson was educated in the public schools of Canada, and at the age of 21 years took a course in contracting and building. He then came to the States, locating in Lisbon, N. D., where he remained one summer. The following summer he went to Sumner, Wash., where, until 1894, he was employed as carpenter in a sash and door factory and other general building. Then coming to Plainview, Minn., he established himself in business here as a contractor and builder, which has since been his chief occupation, though he also is engaged to a limited extent in truck farming. A thorough master of his trade, he has built up a substantial reputation, and many of the fine residences and buildings in Plainview and the vicinity were erected by him, and stand as monuments of his handiwork. As a man and citizen he is respected throughout the community, his personal character being as solid and well proportioned as the substantial structures he has erected. Of a companionable disposition, he had identified himself with several of the prominent fraternal orders, being a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Forester. His membership in the Odd Fellows' order includes the Rebekah lodge. Mr. Anderson was married November 3, 1894, to Anna S. Friesheim, who was born in Sauk City, Wis., April 7, 1870. After 23 years of happy married life, she died June 27, 1918, leaving four children: Phyllida E., born September 26, 1896; Douglas F., born February 18, 1904; Lenora E., born April 29, 1905; and Mildred A., born April 25, 1909. Phyllida E., who is a graduate of the Plainview high school and the Ellensburg (Wash.) normal school, is now a teacher in the state of Washington. Douglas F. is residing in Rochester, Minn. The other two children reside with their father, Lenora being a student in the Plainview high school. Mr. Anderson and his family attend the Congregational church. Mr. Anderson was married April 17, 1920, to Mrs. Olive Erding.

**Charles S. Amos**, who died at his home in Plainview, April 3, 1916, was for many years a large land owner, a scientific farmer and stock breeder, whose specialty was the raising of better horses, both draft and road horses, pacers and trotters, in which line of endeavor, as in others, he was eminently successful. He was born in Strasburg, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, June 24, 1853, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Amos, whom he accompanied to Little Valley, Olmsted County, Minn., when seven years old. There he was educated and reared to farm pursuits, residing at home until 1875. In that year he bought 80 acres in Little Valley, and started to develop a farm on his own account, erecting the necessary buildings. His energy and ambition led him to increase his holdings from time to time until he had in all some 745 acres, which was all in Little Valley, near the Wabasha County line. There he farmed successfully until 1913, when he retired from active work and moved to Plainview, purchasing a fine residence on Jefferson street. A part of his land was divided among his children, he retaining 260 acres, which is now owned and rented out by his widow. In addition to his agricultural and stock raising interests, Mr. Amos was a stockholder in the Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company. He was a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie, and his death was an event that spread sorrow throughout the community, thus deprived of one of its foremost citizens. Mr. Amos had still his fortune to make when, on October 5, 1876, he married Augusta Daburkow, who was born in Germany, November 22, 1855. With her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Daburkow, she came to America in 1860, when five years old, the family locating on Oak Ridge. There the mother died and the father subsequently returned to Germany, where he also passed away. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Amos, two of whom are now deceased, namely: Dollie, born July 25, 1895, who



died August 10, 1910, and an unnamed infant who died on the day of its birth, October 16, 1888. The survivors are Henry Alfred, Howard William, Grace E., Rolla B., and Charley H. All the sons are farmers in Little Valley. Henry Alfred, born August 9, 1880, is operating a part of the old home farm, his sister, Grace (born April 22, 1883), keeping house for him. Howard William, born November 3, 1881, was married January 12, 1905, to Ida Ketchum and has three children, Orvill, Gladys and Jake. Rolla B., born January 25, 1885, was married March 20, 1912, to Lucille Amos and has two children, Burrell and Phyllis. Charley H. was married January 15, 1913, to Alice Marshman and has two children, Rosemond and Paul. The Amos family is affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. They occupy a high place in the community, of which they are useful members, characterized by all the qualities of true manhood and womanhood.

**William Rock**, now living practically retired from active work, in the village of Plainview, is a man who has risen to a comfortable position in life through his own exertions and without extraneous aid. He was born in Canada, October 17, 1856, son of Alexander and Jane (Morris) Rock. The father was born in Canada, and the mother in Ireland, and their marriage took place in Canada. Alexander Rock was a mason by trade, and after coming to the States in 1880, he continued in the same occupation, though residing on a farm in Plainview Township, this county. In 1902 he and his wife went to live with their son William, the subject of this sketch, at whose home he died April 9, 1918. His wife, who survives him, will be 91 years of age on February 14, 1920. William Rock acquired his education in the public schools of Canada, and began industrial life in the sawmills of his vicinity. Coming to Minnesota in 1880, he located in Plainview Township, where he bought a farm of 160 acres. Laboring early and late, he made continuous and valuable improvements, and continued its operation until 1912, when he found himself able to retire. Accordingly he purchased his present home in the village, which includes, besides the house, six acres of land. For five years he has followed a light occupation as field manager for the Watertown Canning Co., of Plainview, a position requiring brains and knowledge rather than muscle. He has served three years on the village council, as a member of which he has shown ability and a good knowledge of local requirements. He is also a member of the Creamery Association, and fraternally, of the Modern Woodmen of America. On February 9, 1879, Mr. Rock assumed domestic responsibilities, being united in marriage with Elizabeth Kimball. She was born in Canada (where they were married), June 9, 1842, daughter of William and Eliza Ann (Wade) Kimball. Her parents were also natives of Canada, and came to Minnesota in 1883, locating on a 40-acre farm in Plainview Township, this county. In their declining years they made their home with the subject of this sketch and his wife, their daughter, Mr. Kimball dying in August, 1885, and Mrs. Kimball in March, 1902. The religious affiliations of Mr. and Mrs. Rock are with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Monroe J. Manchester**, a well known and prosperous business man of Plainview, proprietor of an elevator there, and also of another at Viola, Olmsted County, was born at Waterville, Vt., June 13, 1863, son of James M. and Charlotte R. (Wells) Manchester. The father, who was a soldier in the Civil War, was captured and died in Andersonville prison. His widow subsequently married D. C. Harvey, of Waterville, Vt., and in 1875 they came to Olmsted County, Minnesota, locating at Dover. Monroe J. Manchester was twelve years old when he accompanied his mother and step-father to Dover, Minn. There he attended the public schools, and at the age of 16 years became operator at the Dover station. For about 34 years subsequently he continued in railroad work, from 1879 being operator or station agent successively at Dover, St. Charles or Utica, then for eight years at Dover, becoming station agent at Plainview in February, 1893, which position he filled for 20 years, or until





Augusta E. Ames







October, 1913. In 1912 he had purchased an interest in the C. E. Richmond & Co.'s elevator, and in 1913 he became active in the concern, retiring finally from railroad work. On May 1, 1917, Mr. Manchester became sole owner and proprietor of the business and elevators at Plainview and Viola. In June, 1918, he built his present sightly elevator at Plainview, and is now doing an extensive business, handling grain, feed, coal and fuel. Though starting an independent career somewhat late in life, he has shown himself possessed of the requisite business capacity, and has made great progress within a short space of time, having established himself as one of the substantial business men of Plainview and the surrounding region, throughout which he is widely known. As an old proverb says, "Nothing succeeds like success," of which Mr. Manchester's case is an admirable illustration, and the universal respect in which he is held is not unmerited. He is a Mason of high degree, belonging to the Blue Lodge at Plainview, the Chapter at St. Charles, the Consistory at Winona, and to Osman Temple of the Mystic Shrine at St. Paul. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge at Plainview, the Elks lodge at Rochester, and to several other orders, including the Modern Woodmen of America, the Modern Samaritans, the Yeoman and the Independent Order of Foresters. On June 10, 1885, Mr. Manchester was married at Dover, Minn., to Mary Estella Dickey, who was born at Strong, Maine, September 10, 1861, daughter of John W. and Martha M. (Hunt) Dickey. The only child of this union, Hazel, died at the age of six months.

**August Stoltz**, now living retired in Plainview village, was an early settler in this county, and for many years an active member of that agricultural class which has contributed the most to its development and the building up of its wealth and material resources. He was born in Germany, September 20, 1842, and was educated in his native land, where he grew to manhood. In 1865 he came to America, locating at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. After a residence there of three years, he came in 1868 to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and began farming, renting a tract of land in Plainview Township. Later he removed to 80 acres in section 5, which had been broken, but on which there were no buildings. These were erected by himself and formed a good set, including a comfortable residence. Through strenuous work he made good progress, each year finding him farther advanced, and he kept enlarging his farm by the purchase of additional land until he found himself the owner of 400 acres. In 1889, having acquired a reasonable competence, he retired from active work, and he and his wife have since resided in the village, where they have a large acquaintance among well known people. It was here that Mr. Stoltz was married, May 7, 1869, to Augusta Meitzner, who was born in Germany, April 18, 1847, and who came to America at 19 years of age, in 1866. Five children have been born to them, namely: Emma, April 15, 1870; Rudolph, June 28, 1872; G. Adolph, October 20, 1876; Atelia, January 29, 1879, and Sophia, October 7, 1881. Emma is now the wife of John Kuhmann, of South Dakota. Rudolph married Anna Bank, and is now a farmer in Highland Township. Atelia is the wife of August Quandt, of Mower County, Minnesota. Sophia is the wife of John Leibert, of South Dakota.

**G. Adolph Stoltz**, assistant cashier in the Plainview State Bank, and a business man of local repute, was born in Plainview Township, October 20, 1876, a son of August and Augusta (Meitzner) Stoltz. He acquired his education in the Plainview public schools, after which he was employed as clerk for two years in the general store of H. K. Oliverson. Then returning to the home farm, he remained there until 1910, when he moved to Plainview. In 1908 he was elected secretary of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Association, and served as such until he resigned in 1917. In 1908 and 1909, while still living on the farm, he was engaged in the farm implement business in Plainview, driving back and forth between the village and his parents' farm. This business he continued to follow until the spring of 1911, when he accepted a



position as bookkeeper in the Plainview State Bank. Soon after, however, he became one of the assistant cashiers, which position he still holds. He has also farm holdings in Canada and North Dakota. He formerly served as assessor of Plainview Township. To his work, whether of a business or political character, he has always given close attention and has built up a reputation both for probity and ability. His religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church. Mr. Stoltz was married, October 10, 1900, to Lydia A. Schwanbeck, who was born July 8, 1878. Four children have been born of this union: Milton, September 13, 1901; Merle, December 17, 1904; Belva, December 24, 1906, and Everett, February 25, 1911.

**Charles Brookings Carley**, an Olmsted County pioneer, was born in New York State, descended on both sides of his house from old New York families. As a young man he moved to Luzerne County, Penn., where he was married. In 1856 he and his wife came to Minnesota, and settled on a tract of wild land in section 1, Oronoco, in Olmsted County. From there they moved to Farm Hill, in Farmington Township, in that county. After this they came to Wabasha County and settled on a farm in Zumbro Township, a few miles from their former home. After a long agricultural career they retired and moved to Rochester, where they lived for a while. In 1895 they came to Plainview to make their home with their son, James A., and with him they moved to Wabasha. After that they again went to live among old friends and acquaintances in Zumbro Township and there the wife died July 5, 1915. Since then Mr. Carley has made his home with his children. He is highly respected by his fellow men, and has taken his share with the other pioneers in the development of this fertile region, having lived to see the wonderful changes that have transformed southeastern Minnesota from a wilderness into one of the most flourishing regions of the country. In politics, Mr. Carley has been a life-long Democrat. He and his wife were members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Mr. Carley was married in Luzerne County, Penn., June 17, 1851, to Agnes Dodson, who was born there, Jan. 21, 1832. This union was blessed with ten children: Joseph Dodson, born April 18, 1852; Eliza, born July 10, 1854; Richard Sterling, born February 3, 1856; Frederick A., born August 6, 1858; Charles J., born September 29, 1860; Ernest, born March 12, 1862; William, born July 30, 1864; Frank, born November 3, 1866; James A., born June 17, 1869, and Walter E., born March 13, 1871. Ernest died October 18, 1862, and Frank died August 1, 1868.

**James A. Carley**, senator, attorney, business man and public official, is a splendid example of those native sons of Minnesota, whose parents were pioneers, and who have worthily carried the affairs of the Commonwealth still further along the road of progress and eminence. With but little encouragement he has won his way in the world and in achieving a satisfactory measure of success for himself, has assisted materially in the public, civic and business development of the state. As farm boy, teacher, attorney, county attorney, mayor, state representative, state senator, real estate, telephone and lumber investor, he has faithfully done his duty as he has seen it, and in so doing has won the esteem and respect of the people with whom he has come in contact. So widespread is his sterling reputation that he has already been prominently exploited in the public press as excellent material for the Governorship, and in 1918 he secured heavy support for the Democratic nomination for that office. James A. Carley was born in Oronoco Township, Olmsted County, Minn., June 17, 1869, son of Charles Brookings and Agnes (Dodson) Carley. With a common school training as a foundation, he secured an excellent education, his alma maters being the Wesleyan Methodist Seminary at Wasioja, Minn.; the Minnesota State Normal School at Winona, Minn.; the Hamline University at Hamline, Minn., and the law school of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis. In the meantime since the age of fifteen he had made his own way, teaching, working at farming, and at such other employments as promised suf-





James A. Garley







ficient financial return. His first school was at Farm Hill, which he had attended as a boy, and subsequently at intervals he taught other schools, including night classes at St. Paul. He was graduated and admitted to the bar in 1894. He at once opened an office in Plainview, but for two years thereafter continued his career as an educator. Since then his life has been one of ever increasing success. In 1896 he was elected county attorney, and although then inexperienced, he conducted the office in such a manner that he was thrice reelected. At the close of 1908 he retired to take up his duties as a member of the lower house of the Minnesota State Legislature. So excellent was his record in this respect that in 1910 he was persuaded to run for the upper house of the Legislature. Owing to political conditions he was defeated, but in 1914 again became a candidate and was elected. Although a Democrat, and the county was largely Republican, he received the largest majority ever received by a candidate for the senate in this district. In the senate he has made a most notable record, and is one of the influential figures in Capitol politics. He was chairman of the Game and Fish Committee, and later of the Civil Administration Committee, and a member of the Finance, Education, Insurance, Judiciary, Towns and Counties, and Public Service Co-operations Committees, all being of the most important in the Senate organization. One of his most notable fights has been for a tonnage tax on iron ores, which after years of effort he and his friends enacted into a law, in 1919, only to be defeated by the Governor's veto. In Plainview, Senator Carley has likewise been an important factor in public life. From 1914 to 1918 he did most excellent work as president of the village. During the World War he took an active part in the various drives, and delivered hundreds of talks in behalf of the loyal support of the government, in his own county and at many points within the state. In business, he has been no less distinguished. He was one of the founders of the Greenwood Prairie Telephone Co. in 1902, and is now president and principal owner, having had the practical management of the company since 1908. He was president of the New Wabasha Lumber Co., at Wabasha, which has recently sold its yards to the Botsford Lumber Co., of Winona, and is one of the founders and president of the North Star Moulding and Frame Co., of Minneapolis. He has extensive real estate holdings in the vicinity of Plainview, and a large farm near Mapleton, in Blue Earth County, this state. He also has a pleasant home in Plainview. Fraternally he belongs to Plainview Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Wabasha Chapter, R.A.M., Lake City Commandery, K. T., Winona Consistory, S.R.M., Osmon Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Rochester Lodge, No. 1091, B.P.O.E., and Plainview Lodge, I.O.O.F., besides being a member of many fraternal insurance orders. Mr. Carley was married October 4, 1900, to Mary G. Chamberlain, daughter of C. L. and Loretta (Woodard) Chamberlain. Mrs. Carley is a member of the Congregational church. She is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of the Eastern Star.

**William W. McCue**, one of the pioneer settlers in Plainview Township, now deceased, was born in Canada, November 18, 1835. He was educated in the Dominion, and on beginning industrial life took up farming. In 1861, at the age of 25 years, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, buying 80 acres of land in section 23, Plainview Township. The land was wild and the only building on it was an old shanty. To improve the place into a good farm was a task of considerable magnitude, requiring much time and hard labor, but Mr. McCue applied himself to it with assiduity and kept at it until it was accomplished, erecting all necessary buildings up to a fine residence which he built in 1894, and which for that time was thoroughly modern and installed with every desirable convenience that was obtainable. His horses, cattle and swine were of good grade, and he also kept a few sheep. As a man and citizen he was widely respected and for several years was a school director of his district. In his latter years he was a member of the Old Settlers' Association,

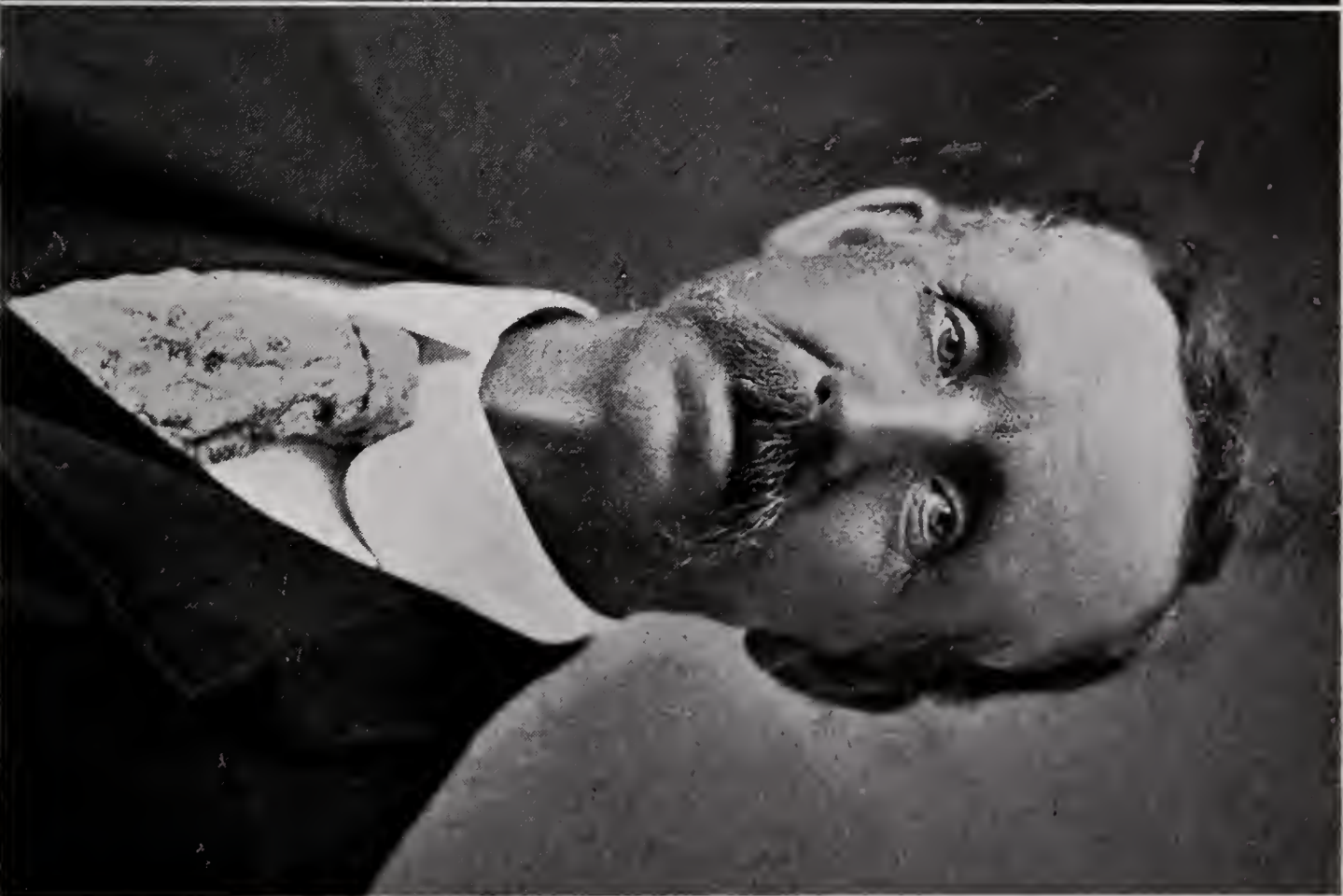


and was also an Odd Fellow. A man of abundant energy, taking a pleasure in work, he continued in the harness until death put an end to his labors in February 6, 1915. Mr. McCue was first married to Alice Berlin, who died May 24, 1872. By her he had one son, Wright B., born May 23, 1871, who is now residing in South St. Paul, Minn. On June 25, 1873, at Wabasha, Minn., Mr. McCue was married secondly to Anna Bairey, who was born in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, September 10, 1849. The issue of this marriage is a son, Fred W., born January 20, 1878, who is now operating the home farm, his mother keeping house for him. He is giving special attention to the breeding of Shropshire sheep, and also raises Chester-White swine, both with profitable results. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Herbert J. O'Connell**, one of the leading business men of Plainview, where he is engaged extensively in the produce business, was born in this village, July 3, 1878, son of John H. and Minnie (Fricke) O'Connell. The parents were married in Plainview, where John H. O'Connell was in the grain business for over 30 years, conducting elevators both here and at Minneiska with the O'Neil line. His last years were spent in retirement in Plainview, where he died April 5, 1918. His wife is still a resident of the village. Herbert J. O'Connell, who was his parents' only child, after attending the public schools of Plainview, engaged in the grain business, and for several years was traveling auditor and manager of different elevators in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Dakota, during ten years of the time being stationed in various places in Dakota. In 1914 he changed his occupation, engaging in the produce business in Plainview, and in 1916 the present company, known as H. J. O'Connell & Co., was formed, with Al. D. Posz as Mr. O'Connell's partner. They handle potatoes, cabbage and onions, also doing a small jobbing business. In 1919 they shipped 314 cars to various southwestern and eastern markets, and through honest dealing and careful management the business is increasing from year to year. The company raises about 30 acres of crops themselves, buying their other produce from the surrounding farmers. Mr. O'Connell was married February 27, 1906, to Martha Gurski, who was born at Hastings, Minn., May 22, 1887, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gurski. To Mr. and Mrs. O'Connell three children have been born: John, February 7, 1907; Frances, July 29, 1908; and H. J., Jr., December 30, 1911. The family are members of the Catholic church.

**William H. Van Horn**, previous to his recent death, a retired farmer and Civil War veteran, Senior Vice Commander of Carroll Post, G. A. R., Plainview, was born in New York City, September 17, 1836, son of Isaiah and Hannah (Ostrander) Van Horn. Both his parents were natives of New York City, in the public schools of which he acquired his education. After relinquishing his studies he entered the Brooklyn navy yard, where he learned the ship-building trade, and was thus occupied until the first call for volunteers in 1861. He then enlisted for three years in Company D, Fourteenth New York Volunteer Infantry, and soon found himself in action. At the battle of Bull Run he received a bullet in his right wrist, a part of which is still there, and was also captured and thrust into Libby prison. Subsequently he was transferred to the prison at Tuscaloosa, Ala., and later to that at Salisbury, remaining a prisoner for a year altogether. After his release he was honorably discharged and returned to New York City to find his mother and sister in mourning, as it had been reported to them that he was killed. In 1869 Mr. Van Horn came west to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and first bought two acres of land and a small house in Plainview Township, in which little home he and his family lived for three years. He then bought a small farm of 84 acres nearby, which he operated until 1890. In that year he sold the farm and bought a home in Plainview village, for several years thereafter following the occupation of carpenter. After his wife's death he sold his home and took apartments with his daughter, Mrs. Daniel McFarlin, having the upstairs flat, where





MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM H. VAN HORN







his daughter Minnesota kept house for him. In spite of his 83 years Mr. Van Horn was a very active man until his death, which occurred June 20, 1920. When a young man he joined Yew Tree Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of New York City, from which he has never been dimitted. In politics he was a Republican, and religiously affiliated with the Congregational church. Mr. Van Horn was married, June 11, 1864, at New York City, to Elizabeth Osgood, who was born in New York City, May 11, 1843, daughter of John B. and Sarah (Woolsey) Osgood. She died July 19, 1918. To Mr. and Mrs. Van Horn five children were born, William H., Annie May, Minnesota, Edna L. and Jennie. William H., born August 11, 1865, who is a railroad man residing at Winona, married Irene Briggs, and has two children, Vivian and Laura E., the former of whom married Arthur Waterstreet and has one child, Wayne. Annie May, born in New York City, April 27, 1868, is now Mrs. Daniel McFarlin of Plainview, and has one child, Merle. Minnesota, born April 14, 1870, in Plainview Township; Edna B., born January 7, 1873, first married Alexander McGee, by whom she has one son, Theodore. She is now Mrs. Cassius Breed, of Plainview, Mr. McGee being deceased. Jennie, born November 22, 1879, is the wife of Asa Knowlton, of Plainview Township, and has three children, Archie, Holsey and Jack. Mr. Van Horn had seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

**Thomas J. Moore, D.D.S.**, of Plainview, a good representative of the professional class in this lively village, was born in Chatfield, Minn., June 23, 1882, son of John W. and Ellen (McLaughlin) Moore. The father was born in the state of New York of English descent, whose active career was spent in farming, and who is now living retired in Chatfield, in which place he was married to Ellen McLaughlin, a native of Ireland. Thomas J. Moore acquired his literary education in the public and high schools of Chatfield, being graduated from the high school in the class of 1904. In 1908 he was graduated from the dental department of the State University of Minnesota, and in the same year came to Plainview and opened an office in the Koenig Block, where he has since remained. He occupies a suite of five rooms, neatly furnished, and fitted out with a full complement of implements and apparatus belonging to his profession, including an X-ray outfit, and since establishing himself in the village he has built up an excellent and lucrative practice, being widely recognized as a highly competent dentist. He has also taken his place as one of the leading citizens of Plainview, having served efficiently as a member of the village council, of which he was president for a year and a half, and as a member of the board of education, which position he has held for several years. As a Mason he belongs to Illustrious Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Plainview, and to the Scottish Rite lodge at Winona. Aside from the emoluments derived from his profession, he owns a fine farm of 95 acres in Plainview Township, which he rents out. Dr. Moore was married, June 11, 1910, to Eva Gran, of Wabasha, Minn. She was born in Wabasha, November 16, 1885, daughter of John and Sophia Gran. Her father is now deceased, but her mother is living and is now a resident of Rochester. To Dr. and Mrs. Moore three children have been born: Margaret E., May 17, 1911; Alice L., December 28, 1912, and Thomas R., November 10, 1916. The family are affiliated religiously with the Congregational church.

**F. M. McClure**, a widely known veterinary surgeon and business man, located in Plainview, was born in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada, July 6, 1878, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (McClellan) McClure. He was educated in his native province of Ontario, and came to the United States in 1892, locating at Calumet, Michigan. In 1905 he entered the McKillip Veterinary College at Chicago, where he studied his profession, being graduated in 1909. He first began practice in Calumet, Mich., but in 1910 came to Plainview, Minn., where he has since been established, and has built up a lucrative practice. In 1914 he built his present hospital, having in the previous year purchased a neat and comfortable residence. Thoroughly skilled in all branches of his profession,



he has gained a wide reputation as a reliable veterinary surgeon. Aside from his profession, since 1917, in association with Charles E. Richmond, he has been engaged in the buying and selling of real estate, including farms, and farm land, also horses and cattle, with profitable results. He is now the owner of a fine farm of 640 acres in Montana. For a number of years he has been a member of the Masonic order, in which he has advanced to the thirty-second degree, and he also belongs to the Mystic Shrine. Dr. McClure was married June 14, 1904, to Myrtle Underwood, of Langdon, N. D., and he and his wife are the parents of one child, Ralph B., born February 16, 1908, who is now attending public school. Dr. McClure and his family are well and favorably known throughout the southern part of Wabasha County. Their religious affiliations are with the Congregational church.

**Hiram Smith**, son of Milo and Mary Smith, was born in Chautauqua County, New York, April 11, 1829. With his parents he moved to Michigan and later to Indiana. In 1856 he married Kate Williams and came to Minnesota, where he located on a homestead in Woodland, adjoining the homestead of his brother Milton, who came to Minnesota the same year. In 1890 he sold his farm to John Schultz and moved to Plainview Village, where he resided until his death, February 21, 1905. There were five children born to this union, all of whom have passed away at this writing. The last survivor was Dr. H. W. Smith, the only son, who was a prominent physician and surgeon located at Crookston, Minn., for a number of years and who passed away in December, 1917. The family, with the exception of Dr. H. W. Smith, is buried in the Woodland Cemetery.

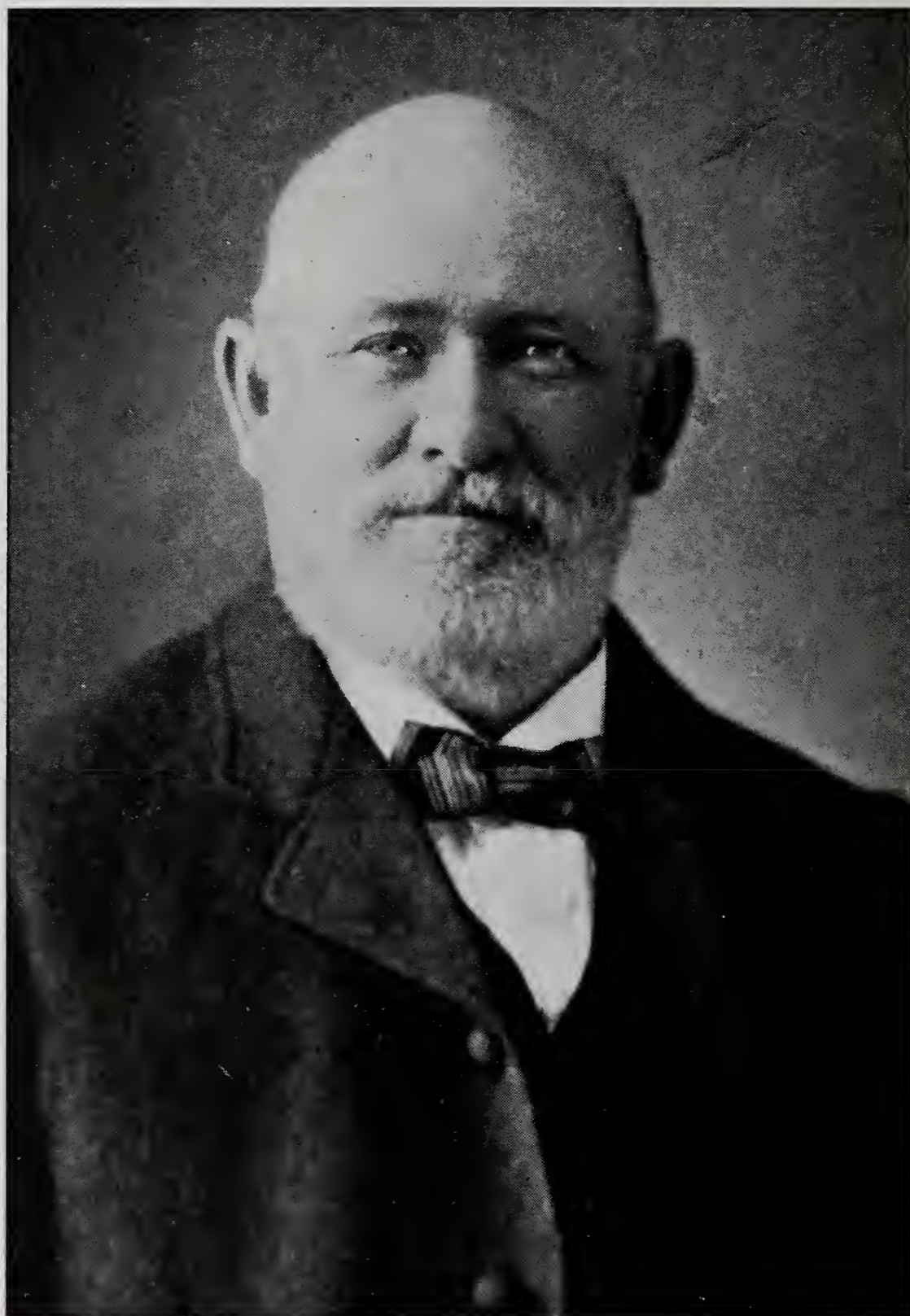
**Augustus Smith**, son of Milo and Mary Smith, was born in Chautauqua County, New York, February 11, 1837. With his parents he moved to Michigan and later to Indiana. In 1862 he married Mareb Electa Robinson of Michigan. They came to Minnesota in 1865, settling on their homestead which joined with the homesteads of his brothers, Hiram and Milton. To this union seven children were born of whom six are now living. Mrs. Alice Gearey and Mrs. Harriet Tupper of St. Paul; Milton of Roosevelt, Utah; Mrs. Minnie Bear, wife of Dr. H. C. Bear of St. Charles, Minn.; Carroll S. of Portland, Ore.; and Leroy R. who is Chief Accountant of Stations for the Great Northern Ry. at St. Paul. Mrs. Smith died March 2, 1888. December 5, 1889, Mr. Smith married Miss Elizabeth Leininger who is still a resident of Plainview. Mr. Smith died June 2, 1909, at his home in the village where he had resided for the past eight years. Mr. Smith was a charter member of Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M. and served eight years at various times as Master of the Lodge. He was also a charter member of Plainview Chapter R. A. M. No. 16, and a member of Home Commandery No. 5, Knights Templar of Rochester. Mr. Smith was a member of the Masonic Veterans Association and for many years never missed a meeting of this body and the Grand Lodge session. He was a Masonic student and took a great interest in the organization of which he was a member so many years.

**Harry D. Smith**, the popular and efficient postmaster of Plainview, is one of the active and progressive men of the community. He has been active in public life, has taken considerable interest in politics, and has been a sincere worker in behalf of the upbuilding of his village, his community, and his county. He is a native of Greenwood Prairie, having been born in Plainview Township, July 23, 1870, son of Milton and Margaret (Leininger) Smith, the pioneers. After attending the graded and high schools of Plainview, he devoted his time exclusively to farming for some three years after which he learned the barber's trade, which he likewise followed for three years. Then he associated himself with his father in farming, and continued in that occupation for eighteen years. During this period his operations were most successful, and he not only won a name for himself as a capable and progressive agriculturist, but also assisted materially in the rural development of the township.









MILTON SMITH



In 1911 he again resumed his trade as a barber. Since early manhood he was interested in politics, and as the years passed he became more and more influential in county political affairs. In the old convention days he was a delegate to many conventions, and a member of many delegations and committees. For some years he has been a leader in the affairs of the Democratic County Central Committee, and has assisted in dictating many of its policies. May 13, 1914, he was appointed by President Woodrow Wilson to his present position as Plainview postmaster. The appointment met with the approval of the entire community and the choice has proven a wise one. In the years since then he has shown his ability, progressive spirit and fitness, and has made many improvements in the service. His unfailing courtesy and obliging manner have won him popularity with all those whose business brings them to the office, and his worth as a man is an important factor in the high esteem in which the local postal service is held. Mr. Smith is as well known in fraternal as in political circles. In the Masonic world he is a member of the Blue Lodge at Plainview, and Consistory at Winona, and the Shrine at St. Paul; while in Elksdom he is a member of Rochester Lodge No. 1091, B.P.O.E., at Rochester. In addition to his duties as postmaster, Mr. Smith has the management of a large farm in Plainview Township, owned by him and his family, to the supervision of which he gives the best of his long years of agricultural experience, together with his keen business judgment and a thorough knowledge of the latest methods of farm enterprise. Mr. Smith was married April 23, 1894, to Mary Marshall, twelfth of the sixteen children of Joseph W. and Elizabeth (Cram) Marshall. This union has been blessed with two children, Victor and Eva. Victor was born January 5, 1895, graduated from the Plainview High School in 1913, and served eighteen months in the World War and received his commission as 2d Lieut. He now holds a fine position with the Washburn Lignite Coal Co. at Wilton, N. D. Eva was born November 2, 1896, graduated from the Plainview High School in 1914, and from the Stout Institute at Menomonie, Wis., and taught three years in the Wilton, N. D. schools. She was married August 6, 1919, to M. R. Thomas of Wilton, N. D., and now resides at that place.

**Milton Smith** was one of that worthy band of pioneers who came here in the county's infancy, and through untold hardships attained honorable position and a competence, assisting in the substantial growth of the county, and impressing upon its history the influence of a worthy character and well-spent life. He was born in Chautauqua County, New York, June 6, 1834, the son of Milo and Mary (Lathrop) Smith, and descended from sturdy stock on both sides of his house. Milo Smith, who devoted his life to farming, was born in the state of New York, in 1793, moved with his family to Niles, Michigan, in 1839, and to St. Joseph County, Indiana, in 1840, there spending his life until his death in 1875. Milton Smith accompanied his parents to Michigan and to Indiana as a mere lad. He received a good common school education and was reared to agricultural pursuits on his father's farm. But he had the blood of pioneers in his veins, and in 1855 he determined to seek his fortune in the upper Mississippi Valley. Accordingly that year he came to Wabasha County, and secured the northwest quarter of section 35, in Plainview Township. After acquiring this land, he returned to Indiana, where early in 1856 he was married to Margaret Leininger. With four yoke of oxen, and their household goods and provisions, the young people drove all the way from Indiana to their newly acquired property in Minnesota, and here established their home. Being among the first settlers, they had many hardships to endure, many privations to encounter, and many discouragements to overcome. But with undaunted faith, they accepted conditions as they found them, and immediately started to take their part in the life of the community. Their efforts were crowned with success. Gradually, as the result of their hard work, frugality, and ability, their farm was well developed, and their possessions grew until at one time



they owned some 1,000 acres. In 1879 they took up their residence in Plainview, and here continued to make their home, although still retaining their farm holdings, and maintaining their part in the county's agricultural development. Mr. Smith was an industrious, hardworking and energetic citizen and enjoyed a wide reputation for honesty and integrity. He was a Democrat and took considerable interest in local political affairs, though rather as a director than as a seeker for personal preferment. He was also well known in Masonry, belonging to the Blue Lodge and Chapter at Plainview. Mr. and Mrs. Smith lived quiet and unassuming lives, and they were highly respected by all the people of the community. The esteem in which they were held adds no small amount to the popularity of their children in the home community. Mr. Smith died September 30, 1904, and his good wife followed him to the grave four years later on January 16, 1908. Both are laid to rest in the Plainview Cemetery. Milton Smith was married to Margaret Leininger at Elkhart, Indiana, January 6, 1856. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, on November 3, 1837, daughter of John and Catherine Leininger. Her parents came from Pennsylvania in 1835 to Stark County, Ohio, and in 1854 moved to St. Joseph County, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the parents of six children: Helen, wife of B. Frank Leininger, of Elkhart, Ind.; William H., of Minneiska, this county; Mattie, who married Fred McArthur, formerly of Plainview and later of Aberdeen, S. D., and who died in 1884, leaving a son Franklin, who is also deceased; Harry D., postmaster at Plainview; Dr. Ervin E., a dentist at Plainview; and Bessie B., formerly married to a Mr. Bonnell and now living in La Crosse, Wis. Harry D. married Mary Marshall, and has two children: Victor, who was married at Camp Greenleaf, Ga., to Alice Spencer, of Sioux Falls, S. D.; and Eva, who in 1919 was married to Ray Thomas of North Dakota. Ervin E. married Agnes Colvin, and has two children, Margaret and Jean.

**William H. Smith**, now living practically retired in the village of Minneiska, was born in Plainview Township, this county, June 25, 1858, son of Milton and Margaret (Leininger) Smith. He was educated in the district school, and during his early years assisted his father on the home farm. Then for a number of years he was engaged in the grocery business at Plainview. Later he took up carpenter work and was thus occupied in Plainview until 1904. In that year he came to Minneiska, and, in order to have some occupation, started boat building, in which business he has continued until recently, having a convenient shop near the bank of the river, in the north end of the village. Physical ailments, however, have now compelled his retirement, as since the age of 19 years, his left hand and arm have been partly paralyzed as the result of an accident, and for several years past he has also been troubled with rheumatism. In spite of these disabilities, he has achieved results worth while, and is in the enjoyment of a fair competency. A man of advanced thought, he has pursued studies in occultism, a subject that is interesting some of the most prominent literary and scientific men of the day.

**Ervin E. Smith, D.D.S.** The dental profession of Wabasha County has an able representative at Plainview, in the person of Dr. Ervin E. Smith, who has been located in practice here since 1904, and is now in the enjoyment of a high professional reputation and a representative patronage. He has also taken an active and leading part in civic and social life, is widely known in fraternal circles, and at various times has served in public positions of trust, in which he has demonstrated that he has the welfare of the community deeply at heart. Doctor Smith is a native son of Plainview, and was born March 25, 1878, son of Milton and Margaret (Leininger) Smith. The schools of Plainview furnished him with his early educational training, after which he took a course in a business college. For several years he worked in various occupations at Winona, but finally deciding upon a professional career began the study of dentistry in the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, and was graduated from that institution in 1901. For one year he was located in practice in St. Paul, then





*E. E. Smith, D. S. S.*







going to Marshall, Minn., for two years. In 1904 he came to Plainview, where he purchased the office and practice of Dr. W. P. Duerre, since which time he has carried on his profession in this place. Doctor Smith's ability, training and experience have been features in the securing of a large and representative practice, and the excellent reputation which he enjoys in professional circles has come as the result of his keeping thoroughly abreast of the various advancements and discoveries made in the field of modern dentistry. His office is equipped with a valuable library and he also has the latest and most highly improved instruments and appliances for the successful prosecution of his calling. In fraternal circles, Dr. Smith is very favorably known, being Past Master of Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M.; and a member of Orient Chapter No. 19, R. A. M.; Home Commandery No. 5, K. T.; Winona Consistory No. 4, S. R. M.; Plainview Chapter No. 184, O. E. S.; and Osman Templé, A. A. O. N. M. S. of St. Paul. He has recently received the honorary degree of K. C. C. H. in Scottish Rite Masonry. The Doctor also belongs to Plainview Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F., and Rochester Lodge No. 1091, B. P. O. E. He is a member of the Psi Omega Dental Fraternity and has taken an active part in the work of the various dental societies. He was one of the organizers of the Southeastern District Dental Association of Minnesota and its first president. He is a member of the Minnesota State Dental Society and of the National Dental Association. Doctor Smith takes an active part in civic matters; having served on the village council, helped organize the Plainview Public Library in 1905 and was made president of the first Library Board, which office he still holds. He was president of the Plainview Commercial Club several years and was one of the organizers of the Plainview Poultry Association and acted as president several years. He is now serving his second term as a member of the Board of Education, of which organization he is the Treasurer. During the late war, Dr. Smith acted as Food Administrator for Plainview and vicinity and also served on several of the different war fund committees. Through appointment by the Treasury Department, Dr. Smith is now furnishing dental treatment to patients of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance under supervision of the Dental Section of the United States Public Health Service. Dr. Smith has devoted a great deal of time and energy to the better things of the community and can always be counted on for cooperation in matters that are for the advantage of the community and advancement of its citizens. His heart is in the wellbeing of the community, for he is a native son and his parents as pioneers had a real part in the making of early history in this vicinity.

On August 22, 1908, Dr. Smith married Agnes I. Colvin, born at Waupun, Wis., August 22, 1881. She is the daughter of Theodore and Eva (Wedge) Colvin. This union has been blessed with two daughters, Margaret, born August 5, 1910; and Jean, born February 18, 1914. Like her husband, Mrs. Smith is well known in fraternal circles, being a Past Matron of Plainview Chapter No. 184, Order of the Eastern Star and an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her eligibility to membership in the D.A.R. is through her great-great-grandfather, Isaac Wedge, who served in Capt. Carter's Regiment of Connecticut Militia and his war record shows he was discharged from service on Sept. 8, 1776. Doctor Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge, author of this History, and Mrs. Smith on comparing their family lineage, found they are both descended from this Isaac Wedge.

**John Leininger**, in early life a cooper and later a farmer, was born in Pennsylvania, October 16, 1816. At the age of 18 he walked to Stark County, Ohio, to work at his trade. In 1836 he was married to Catherine Nunamaker. In 1854 they moved to St. Joseph County, Indiana, where he farmed until coming to Minnesota. He settled on a farm in Wabasha County on June 2, 1857, where he lived for many years and after a residence of a few years in Plainview Village, died December 28, 1892.

Mrs. Leininger, so well known among our residents as "Grandma Leininger," was indeed a remarkable woman. She was born in Lancaster County,



Pennsylvania, on September 28, 1818, and died at Plainview, July 23, 1912, at an age of nearly 94. Grandma Leininger was one of those sturdy ambitious women who never wearied of doing good. She ministered uncomplainingly in the early days as midwife, nurse and good samaritan to all who needed her, and many indeed can testify to her kindly ministrations regardless of creed, cast or nationality. She was remarkable for her endurance, patience and hopeful disposition, and took a lively interest in everything up to the last. She also had a wonderful memory and never became childish. Her keen mind was fully alive to all the current events up to the last. The children in the neighborhood used to take a great interest in her narration of events in her early life and her experiences as a pioneer in the various places in which she spent her life. Her nationality was Swiss-German descent. On July 13, 1905, she sat in a group picture with her descendants composing five generations. Those composing the group were Grandma Leininger; her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Smith; granddaughter, Mrs. Helen Leininger; great-grandson, Darwin Leininger; great-great-grandson, Ralph Leininger.

This worthy couple reared five children who are well known among the people of this community, viz: Margaret (Mrs. Milton Smith); Cevilla (Mrs. Peter Wood); Elizabeth (Mrs. Augustus Smith); Isaac, a resident of Plainview, and Catherine (Mrs. Edwin McFarlin). Of those now living Mrs. Elizabeth Smith and brother Isaac Leininger reside in Plainview and Mrs. McFarlin resides in La Crosse, Wis.

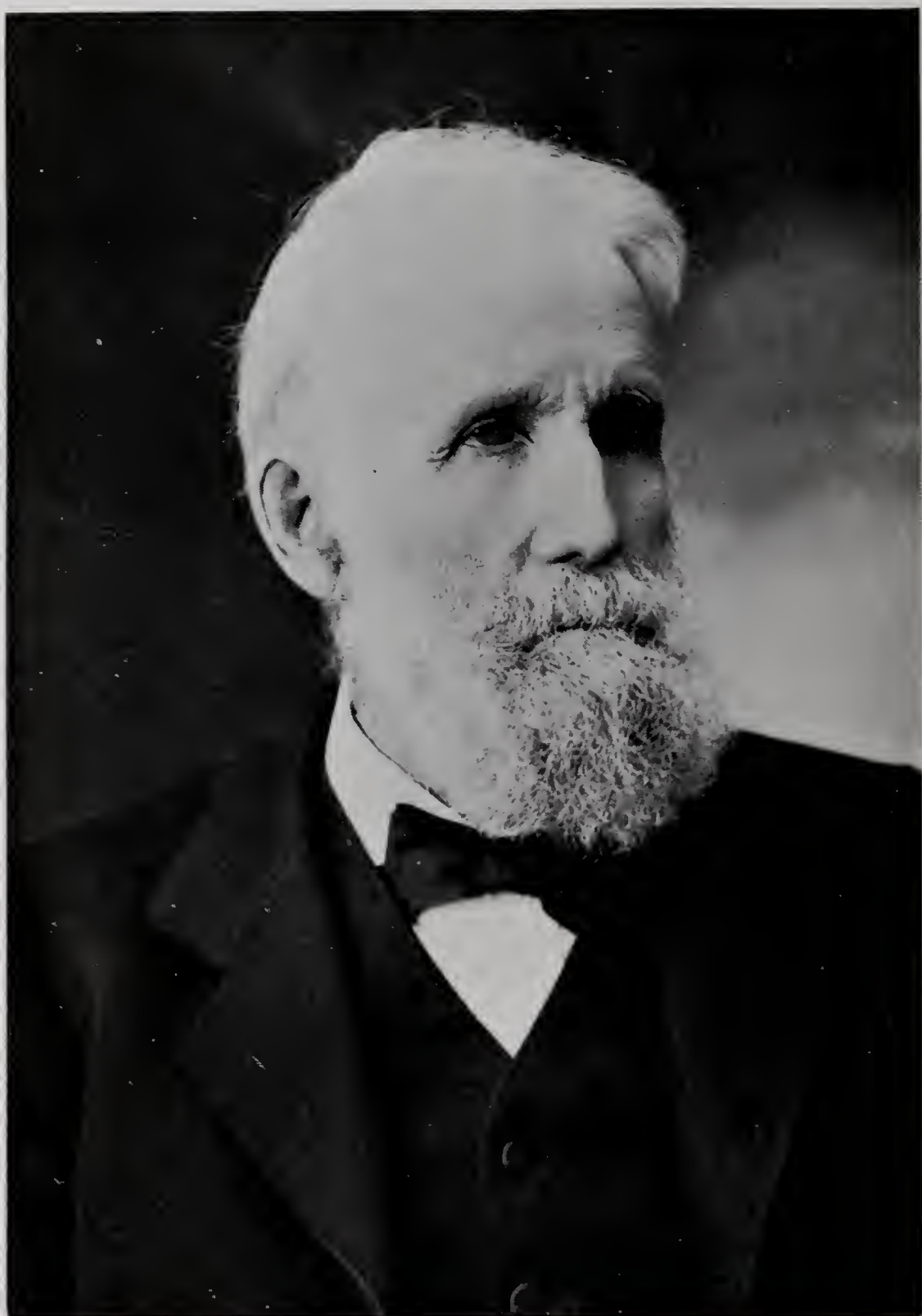
**Ralph V. Murray**, an energetic and rising young business man of Plainview, engaged in the hardware business, was born in Watopa Township, this county, July 21, 1895. He acquired his elementary education in the district schools, which he attended until he was 13 years of age, and then entered Plainview high school, where he was graduated in the class of 1915. He then entered the employ of the Plainview Drug Co., with whom he remained until June 5, 1917, when he purchased his present business. He carries a good line of hardware, and also does heating, plumbing and tinning. He has demonstrated his ability both as a merchant and practical craftsman, and is enjoying a good patronage. On July 15, 1918, Mr. Murray enlisted for service at the Dunwoody School, Minneapolis. On September 13, the same year, he was transferred to the Air Service Mechanical School at St. Paul, where he was pursuing his training studies when the armistice was signed. He was discharged January 15, 1919. He is a member of the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star Chapter, also the I.O.O.F. of Plainview. On March 27, 1918, he was united in marriage with Elsie G. Erding, of Plainview, a daughter of Julius J. and Olive (Slawson) Erding.

**Julius J. Erding**, who was for many years a well known and popular business man of Plainview, but who is now deceased, was born at Buffalo City, Buffalo County, Wis., July 9, 1866, the eldest of the fifteen children of Henry Erding. He was educated in the public schools of his native community, and came to Plainview, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1888. Here for five years he was in the employ of Landon & Burchard, druggists, after which he engaged in business for himself, and so continued until his retirement in 1912. For many years he was a member of the fire department. He passed away December 4, 1915. In religion he was a Roman Catholic. Mr. Erding was a man of good qualities which made him a valuable friend, a kind, obliging neighbor, a devoted husband and an affectionate father, a man who was sympathetic to all suffering, and one easily moved to helpfulness toward those touched by the griefs and troubles which are the common heritage of humanity. He was a lover of out-doors and a follower of healthful sports, being a successful hunter and fisherman, finding in these pursuits recreation from the strenuous duties of his business life. Mr. Erding was married October 11, 1888, at Wabasha, Minn., to Olive Slawson, who was born in Cook Valley, this county, October 20, 1869, daughter of Dewelling and Lucinda (Dudley) Slawson. Her father was born









DANIEL R. FRENCH



in New York State and her mother at North Adams, Mass. They were married in Rock County, Wis., May 14, 1854, and early in the sixties settled in Cook Valley, this county. In 1874 they moved to Indian Creek Valley, where they were engaged in agriculture until 1888, when they retired to Plainview. Here Mr. Slawson died January 29, 1890, and Mrs. Slawson, January 31, 1908, having survived her husband just eighteen years and two days. They were the parents of nine children, born as follows: Susan J., February 12, 1857; Arthur W., April 7, 1859; John S., January 18, 1861; George W., January 30, 1863; Eli D., February 1, 1865; Cora B., September 26, 1867; Olive L., October 20, 1869; Curtis P., November 19, 1871, and Charles S., April 29, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Erding were the parents of two children: Albert R., born January 11, 1891, and Elsie G., the date of whose nativity has been already given. Albert R. died June 20, 1909. Elsie G., now Mrs. Ralph V. Murray, was graduated from Plainview high school in the class of 1914. She and her husband are popular members of Plainview society.

**Henry H. Nichols**, a representative business man of Plainview, proprietor of an excellent meat market, was born at Eyota, Olmsted County, Minn., December 23, 1877, son of George H. and Frances (McCormick) Nichols. The father was a native of New York State, and for twenty-seven years was engaged in the grain buying business at Eyota, but is now living retired at Mason City, Iowa. His wife, Frances, who was born in Pennsylvania, died in 1906. They were married in Olmsted County, of which for many years they were well known and respected residents. Henry H. Nichols acquired his education in the public schools of Eyota. At the age of 15 years he began industrial life in a meat market there, and thoroughly mastered the art of meat cutting. After remaining there for eight years he went to Rochester, Minn., where he followed his trade until 1914. In the following spring he came to Plainview and formed a partnership in the meat business with E. G. Krause, with whom he was associated until February, 1916, at which time he purchased his present business. Here he has built up a good reputation, both for the neat and sanitary condition of his store, the prompt and courteous service, the quality of his various fresh and salt meats, and side products, such as lard, butter, canned goods and vegetables, and the reasonable prices quoted, which are as low as he can make them compatible with present conditions. Cleanliness, honesty and efficient service are his guiding rules, and he is reaping his reward in an extensive patronage. Interested in the general prosperity of the village, he does all he can to promote it as a member of the Business Men's Association. He is also a member of the Masonic order and the Odd Fellows, of Plainview, and of the Red Men's lodge at Rochester. The responsibilities of domestic life were assumed by Mr. Nichols on October 17, 1900, when he was united in marriage with Mabel C. Brown, of Eyota, Minn., who was born September 10, 1883. In their household resides Ethel Keller, a cousin of Mrs. Nichols, whom they are rearing, and who has resided with them since she was four years old. The family worship at the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Daniel Rollin French**, now passed away, but who for 45 years was an honored citizen of Plainview Township, one whose death left a void in the community not easily filled, was born in Mt. Holly, Rutland County, Vermont, March 31, 1828. When he was nine years old his parents moved to Warren County, Pennsylvania. There he received a thorough education, and in 1848 was married to Emily P. Bond. In 1851 they moved to Green Lake County, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1864 engaged in farming. In that year they came to Minnesota and bought the farm in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, three miles east of Plainview village, on which they made their permanent home. There Mrs. French died in 1894. She was a high minded woman, a devoted wife and mother and true Christian, showing her faith by her works, and was loved and respected by everyone. Mr. French survived his wife about 15 years, continuing his residence on the old homestead. He took



an active interest in all public affairs, and, having the full confidence of his fellow citizens, was often called to positions of responsibility, the duties of which he performed with fidelity and efficiency. He served many years on the board of supervisors. He opposed on principle bonding the town for railroad purposes, and it was due to the persistent opposition of himself and one or two neighbors that the bonds were finally defeated in the courts and the town relieved of the great burden.

In politics Mr. French was independent, in religion liberal. Of upright character and sterling worth, he had firm convictions, and his influence was ever on the side of right, as it was given him to see the right. His neighbors and children bear witness to his kindness and constancy in every relation of life, and his memory will live in the hearts of those who knew him. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are now living: Corwin of Orland, Cal.; Hayden of Ortonville, Minn.; Andrew of St. Paul; Mrs. Florence Carpenter of Milaca, Minn.; George W. of Carlton, Oregon; Mrs. Emily Peake of Remer, Minn.; and Mrs. Hortense Douglass of Plainview.

**Andrew French**, a former citizen of Plainview, who was a potent factor in the organization and development of various local enterprises, and who is now engaged in a wider sphere of action as a land dealer, residing in St. Paul, was born in Green Lake County, Wisconsin, near Markesan, December 10, 1859. His parents, D. R. and Emily (Pond) French, were natives respectively of Vermont and New York. Andrew was four years old when he accompanied them to Wabasha County, Minnesota, the family settling on a farm of 160 acres on the famous Greenwood Prairie, in Plainview Township. There he was reared to manhood, acquiring a district and public school education, and under his father's mentorship becoming an excellent farmer. After relinquishing his studies, he taught school for nine years in the rural districts of the county, and for five summers during that period was engaged in farming in Big Stone County. In the spring of 1885 he became associated with his father as a partner in the home farm, carrying on general agriculture, and this association was continued harmoniously for many years, or until the father's death in 1909, when Andrew became sole owner of the estate. This farm he sold in 1912. In the meanwhile he had become interested in other business enterprises. He was one of the organizers of the Plainview Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which he served as secretary from 1889 until December, 1908. Always progressive, especially in agriculture, he was one of the first in the community to use the silo, and was probably the first dairyman of the county to use upon his farm the modern cream separator. He also helped to organize the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Company, serving as its secretary and manager from 1899 to 1908. In 1902 Mr. French moved to Plainview, where he at once became one of the leading spirits in the affairs of the village, being one of the organizers of the Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company, of which in 1903 he was elected secretary and manager, which positions he held until 1908. He was also a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Plainview, and served as its vice president for two years. Aside from these business enterprises, he rendered efficient service in public office, being a member for several years, and chairman part of the time, of the Plainview Township board of supervisors. He also served for two years as mayor of Plainview, and also served his legislative district in the State Legislature in the sessions of 1891 and 1893. In December, 1908, Mr. French was appointed by Governor Johnson as State Dairy and Food Commissioner, and, moving to St. Paul, performed the duties of that office for two years. In 1911 he purchased large tracts of land in Cass County, Minnesota, and engaged in the land business, with offices at No. 345 Endicott building, St. Paul. By enterprise and honest dealing he has built up a large trade as head of the Clover Belt Land Company, and is realizing satisfactory financial returns. He is a member of the St. Paul Association of Commerce and is widely known and





ANDREW FRENCH







respected as one of the leading business men of the state capital. Mr. French was married, March 5, 1885, to Adelia Struble, daughter of Stephen and Emily (Graves) Struble, of Plainview. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Stanton Graves, born January 2, 1896, and Stephen Rollin, born August 14, 1901. Stanton Graves, who was a student at the Central high school, St. Paul, in May, 1917, entered the navy of the United States, and is still in the service at the Great Lakes Station, Illinois. Stephen Rollin, who was graduated from the Central high school in the class of 1919, is now a student at the Minnesota State University. Mr. French and his family are members and loyal supporters of the St. Paul Universalist church, which he is serving in the office of treasurer. The family home is located at No. 2117 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul.

**Joseph Sugg**, a native son of Wabasha County, and now an enterprising and successful business man in the far distant territory of Alaska, is a man with an adventurous and interesting career. He was born at Read's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., December 19, 1864, son of Christ O. and Gertrude Sugg. The parents were natives of Germany, the father born June 11, 1821, and the mother July 14, 1833. Christ O. Sugg came to the United States at a very early day, settling at Read's Landing, this county and state. He was a carpenter by trade, but did little work after losing his left arm in an accident. He died April 29, 1897, and his wife, March 9, 1901. Their children were: Ida, now Mrs. Richard Adams, of Menominee, Wis.; Emma, now Mrs. B. J. Tobin, of Duluth, Minn., and Joseph, subject of this sketch; Fidel, a twin brother of Joseph, who is now living at Proctor, Minn. Joseph spent his boyhood days at Read's Landing. Leaving school at the age of fifteen, he entered the ranks of industry as a rafter on the Mississippi river, working between Stillwater, Minn., and St. Louis, Mo., and continuing in that occupation till about 1890. In the spring of 1891 he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway as bridge carpenter, and was with that road for seven years. In the spring of 1898, Mr. Sugg with a party comprising nine others set out for the gold regions of Alaska, to which there was then a strong stream of emigration. Their first objective was Valdez. Then they crossed the Valdez glacier to Copper Center, where they halted and remained three months. At Copper river they built boats for prospecting, and engaged in that occupation on Copper river and its tributaries, but without success. His nine companions, being discouraged, left him and returned to the United States, but he was not yet willing to give up, and remained. During the winter of 1898-99 he explored the Tanana river country for gold, but without finding any. The following winter he spent in Skagway. In the spring of 1900 Mr. Sugg drifted back to the Yukon country and worked awhile on Yukon river. He then established himself in Council, a small mining district, and engaged in freighting on the Fish and Nukluck rivers. In this employment he met with better success, and by 1907 had become the sole owner of seven scows with their outfit. This business he is still operating. In the fall of 1907 Mr. Sugg returned to Read's Landing, Minn., on a visit, and remained until the following spring, when he returned to Council, Alaska. There he entered into partnership with E. H. Pfaffle and Wallace Porter for the operating of the freight business. In 1911 the firm opened a large general supply store at Council, which they are still conducting. Two years later, in 1913, they located gold claims in the Norton Bay country, eighty miles from Nome, and these mines are now paying fairly well. On November 5, 1919, Mr. Sugg left Alaska for his old home in Wabasha County, for a second visit, and spent the winter here. He returned to Alaska on May 5, 1920, to resume his business interests there. He has been very successful and likes Alaska and its people, of which he is himself a representative type, hardy, enterprising and adventurous. He is a Republican politically, and though reared a Catholic has embraced the Protestant faith. He has never married.

**George V. Strehlein**, a respected citizen of Plainview, where he is now living retired, was born on a farm in Winona County, Minnesota, January 13,



1867, son of George and Barbara (Staudacher) Strehlein. The parents were natives of Bavaria, Germany, and came to America in 1854, first settling in Canada and later crossing over to Detroit, Mich., where they remained awhile. From there the family went to the Lake Superior region, where for five years George Strehlein worked in the copper mines. In 1866 they came to Winona County, Minnesota, settling on a farm in Whitewater Township. It contained 160 acres, and by an additional purchase was subsequently increased in area to 200 acres. There the father died in 1896, and was buried in the Presbyterian cemetery in Norton Township, having helped to organize and support the church to which the cemetery belonged. He had also taken an active part in matters pertaining to the public welfare, and was a factor in the development of his township and county. His wife died in 1904. Their children consisted of two sons and one daughter: Annie, John and George. Annie became the wife of Charlie Zenk, a farmer of Winona County, but both she and her husband are now deceased.

George V. Strehlein was educated in the district school and reared on his parents' farm, in his boyhood herding cattle and doing other useful work, learning more as he grew older until he became a competent farm hand. The management of the farm finally came into his hands, and shortly before his father's death he bought it and was engaged in its operation until about 1907. After that for five years he operated a small farm of thirty acres in Beaver. This he sold in 1912, and bought eighty acres in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, where he made his home until 1917, when he removed to the village of Plainview, having in the meanwhile sold the home farm. Wherever he has lived he has taken an active and useful part as a citizen, doing his part in promoting the general welfare of the community. Mr. Strehlein was married June 6, 1894, to Fredericka Wier, daughter of Lewis and Sophia (Adam) Wier, who came to this country from Germany in 1883, settling in Wabasha County, Minnesota. Formerly engaged in farming, they are now living in the village of Plainview. Their only children were Fredericka and a son, Frederick, who is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Strehlein have a daughter, Ida, who is now Mrs. Arthur Muessell of Plainview Township.

**J. W. Reifkogel** is one of the names associated with the business life of Plainview for many decades. He was one of those fortunate men who make their daily work a labor of love, he enjoyed his business, he took pride in his success, and he took pleasure in maintaining his share of those civic duties which fall to the lot of every public spirited and prosperous citizen. His home life was ideal, he was ever looking to the happiness and welfare of his family, and his greatest joy was in seeing his children well established in life. His career was a useful one, worthily lived, and one that will long be held in loving remembrance by those nearest and dearest to him. Born in Hamburg, Germany, September 28, 1827, of good substantial people, he acquired a common school education, and as a youth learned the trade of harness-making, after which, as was the custom, he started out on a tour of Germany, Denmark and Holland, learning new features of his trade, and seeing much of continental Europe. Then came the four years of compulsory military service, during a part of which time, from 1848 to 1852 he participated in several active campaigns of the European war then raging. In 1852, however, he shook off the yoke of militarism, bade farewell to his native country, and determined to cast his lot with the great free people of the West. For two years he worked in New York, and for eleven years in Boston. During two years of the Civil War he was in the navy yard at Charlestown, Mass. In 1865, having in the meanwhile acquired a family, he came to Minnesota and took up his permanent residence in Plainview. Upon his arrival here he engaged in the harness business in a small shop and on a small scale. Within a short time his worth and ability attracted attention, and it was not long before he was doing the largest harness and leather-working business in the county. The small shop was replaced by a





J. W. REIFKOGEL





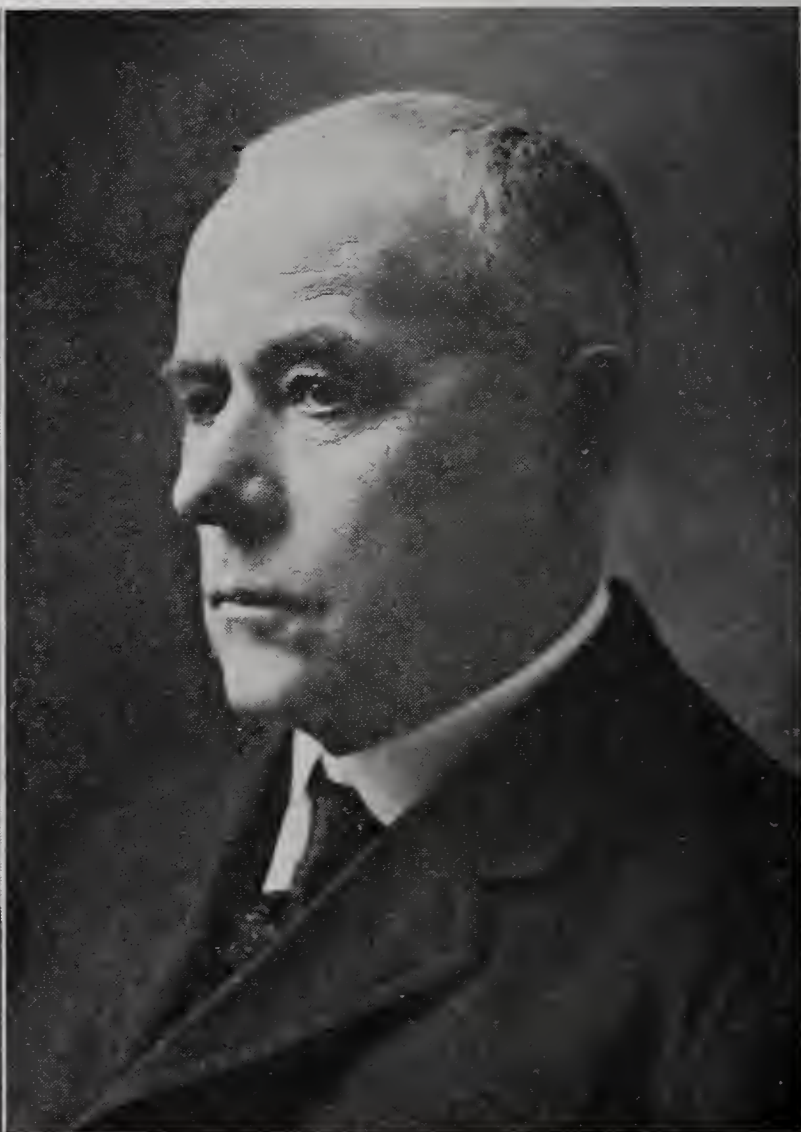








ALBERT REIFKOGEL



WILLIAM REIFKOGEL



larger one on the same site, and the Reifkogel establishment became one of the leading business houses of the village. After a long and useful life, he died March 23, 1894, and his death left a real vacancy in the affairs of Plainview. Mr. Reifkogel was married December 28, 1855, to Charlotte Young, at Charlestown, Mass. She died September 1, 1908. This union was blessed with seven children: Sophia, William, Charlotte, Henrietta, Albert, Henry and one unnamed infant. Sophia married Daniel D. Clough. Charlotte married A. J. Carroll. Henrietta married Charles Lawton. Henry died in 1866. Albert died December 8, 1919. Charlotte Young, afterward Mrs. J. W. Reifkogel, was born in Bavaria, June 14, 1828, and came to America as a young lady. When Mr. Reifkogel selected her as his helpmeet, he brought into his life his greatest happiness. She was a loyal wife, a devoted mother and a kindly neighbor. None ever entered her home without a warm welcome, nor left it without a feeling that they had experienced the warmth of genuine hospitality. In her family her life was one of unselfish devotion, she entered into the lives of her dear ones in an unusual measure, rejoicing in their success, grieving at their reverses. Her afternoon of life was a peaceful one, she realized her active days were over, and with resignation she awaited the Divine call.

**William Reifkogel**, who has for many years been engaged in the harness business in Plainview, being now the sole proprietor of the business conducted under the firm name of J. W. Reifkogel & Son, was born in Charlestown, Mass., September 28, 1857, son of J. W. and Charlotte (Young) Reifkogel. His education was begun in the city of his birth, immediately contiguous to Boston, and where as a little child he doubtless saw the soldiers marching by on their way to or from Southern battle fields during the Civil War period. While he was still a boy his parents removed with their family to Minnesota, locating in Plainview, Wabasha County, where the father opened a harness shop. Here William completed his school studies, after which he became his father's assistant, under his instructions mastering every detail of harness manufacture. In course of time he became a partner in the business, and so continued until the father's death in 1894. After that event he and his brother Albert carried it on under the old firm name of J. W. Reifkogel & Son, until Albert's death in December, 1919, leaving William the sole proprietor. The firm has always made a specialty of hand-made and hand-sewed harness of the highest quality, which fact is so well recognized that for some time it has been impossible to fully supply the demand for its product. The building in which the business is carried on was erected by its founder, the father of the present proprietor, and contains, besides the manufacturing and repair departments, a commodious salesroom stocked with a large and complete line of blankets, robes, fly nets, and all horse and harness accessories, such as are found in an up-to-date harness shop. William Reifkogel is now one of the oldest harness men in Minnesota. His success is the result of thorough practical skill, backed up by hard work and close application to business, and as a prosperous and self-made man and reliable citizen he ranks high in the community. The fine modern residence he occupies on West Broadway was erected by him in 1902.

On May 30, 1898, Mr. Reifkogel was married to Hannah Crowley, who was born in Ripon, Wis., July 4, 1866, but reared in Rochester, Minn. They have two children: Mildred Jeanette, born May 21, 1899, a graduate of the Plainview high school who is now in training as a nurse in the Winona General Hospital; and John William, born August 28, 1900, who is residing at home. The family are members of the Catholic church.

**Christian Schad**, for many years an enterprising and successful farmer of Highland and Plainview townships, but now retired, was born in Germany. After coming to America he was married to Cecelia Ruff, a native of this country, and they settled in Highland Township, where they purchased 320 acres of practically wild land. To clear and develop this tract into a good farm was a formidable task, but Mr. Schad finally accomplished it, his labors



including the erection of buildings. After residing on that place until 1898, he sold it and purchased a farm of 400 acres in Plainview Township, where he continued in agricultural pursuits until his retirement. He still resides there, but has divided the farm among his sons. His wife passed away in 1911.

**Frank Schad**, one of the leading merchants in Wabasha County, located at Plainview, was born in Highland Township, this county, April 29, 1877, son of Christian and Cecelia (Ruff) Schad. His preliminary education was acquired in the district school, and he then entered St. John's University, from the commercial department of which he was graduated in 1896. He then returned to the parental farm. In 1898 he accepted a position as clerk in the department store of Koenig Bros. & Co., and after five years became a partner in the concern. In 1919, with his brothers Ed and William, he purchased the business, which has since been conducted as the Schad Mercantile Co. It is the largest department store in Wabasha County, and is stocked with a complete line of up-to-date merchandise in every department, including clothing and haberdashery, dry goods, ladies' ready-to-wear, crockery, furniture, carpets and rugs. The wants of a large and discriminating public have been fully anticipated, and everything likely to be called for had been provided as a part of the stock, with prices satisfactory to the patrons. As the result of foresight, energy and careful management, the business is prospering in a high degree. In 1919 it was incorporated as the Schad Mercantile Co., with Frank Schad as president; Paul Johnson, vice-president, and William Schad, secretary, and Ed Schad, treasurer. Frank, like the other members of his family, is a member of the Catholic church, also belonging to the Knights of Columbus and the Commercial Club. He was married June 16, 1909, to Anna E. Schilling, who was born in Watopa Township, this county, October 7, 1886. They are the parents of four children: Theodore F., Louise E., Edwin A. and Florence C.

**George J. Stodart**, a retired stock farmer living in the village of Plainview, where he is numbered among the citizens of independent means, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, November 4, 1854, son of George and Marion (Douglass) Stodart. The parents were natives of Lanarkshire, where both died, the father on December 8, 1896, and the mother November 14, 1880. In addition to the subject of this sketch, they had six other children, James, Minnie, George, Hugh F., William D. and Archibald. George J. Stodart acquired his education both in Scotland and England, for some time being a student at Glasgow Academy. In 1879 he came to the United States, locating in Colorado, where he worked for five years on a cattle ranch, during which time he became thoroughly familiar with that branch of stock-raising. Then going to North Dakota, he took a claim in Greggs County, where for four years he was engaged in farming. In 1891 he came to Winona County, Minnesota, and took land in Little Valley, near St. Charles, where he farmed for about six years. From there he came to Plainview, Wabasha County, and for 15 years was engaged in operating a farm on the edge of town, devoting his particular attention to the raising and shipping of cattle. Finally Mr. Stodart sold that place and bought a truck farm known as the Evans Place, which he operated for six years. At the end of that time, having acquired a competence, he purchased a house and two lots in the village of Plainview, where he has since resided, doing a little truck farming in order to have an occupation. He is a member of the Old Settlers' Association, and has an extensive knowledge of local events since he first made his home in this county. Mr. Stodart was first married, April 15, 1886, to Julia Berni, who died in 1887, leaving one son, George Berni, now engaged in the hardware business in St. Paul. This son married Anna Behnkin, and has one child, Dorothy M. Mr. Stodart was married secondly September 15, 1891, to Agnes Mitchell, who was born in Winona, Minn., October 22, 1857, daughter of William and Sarah (Hillis) Mitchell. The father, who was a native of Kilmarnock, Scotland, came to America at the age of 24 years, and was later married in Indiana. His wife, Sarah, was born in Kingston,



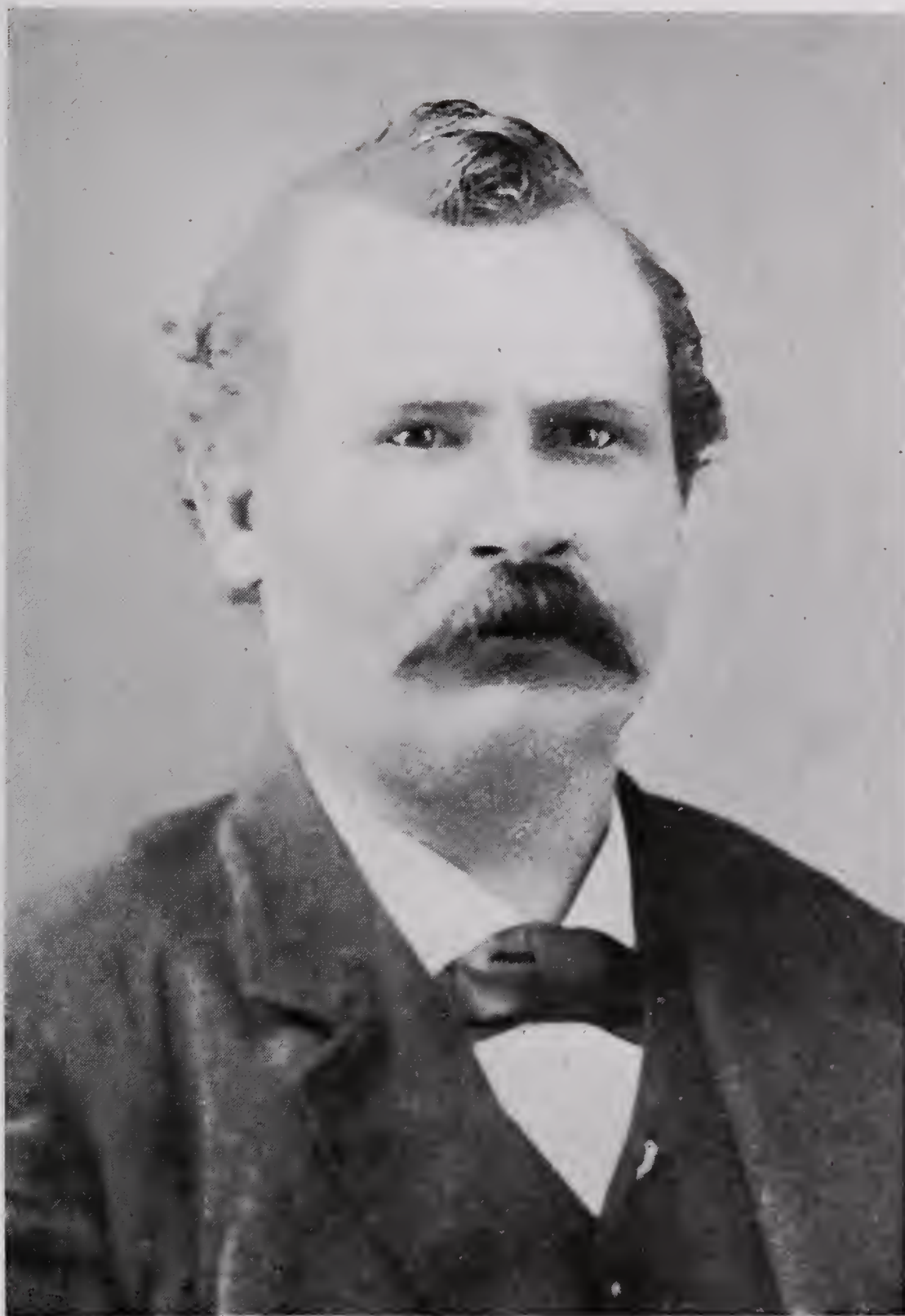






ANNA J. REICH





HERMAN REICH







Canada. Later Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell came to Minnesota, and after awhile settled at Winona, where they resided for four years. Later they spent four years farming in the western part of Wabasha County, and then removed to Dover, in Olmsted County, where Mr. Mitchell died April 27, 1889, and Mrs. Mitchell, January 18, 1918, she being buried at Saratoga, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Stodart are members of the Church of Christ, and are people who follow the Golden Rule in their relations with their fellow creatures. Mrs. Stodart has one sister and five brothers, namely: Clara, William H., James, Charles V., George and Mark.

**Herman Reich**, who passed away at his home on High Street, Plainview, Saturday morning, June 26, 1915, was an early settler in the county, and one of the best known among the older residents of the village. He was born in Germany, March 25, 1846, and came to America with his parents at the age of eight years. The father died in New York, leaving his wife and eleven children to mourn his loss. Subsequently the family, of whom Herman was the youngest member, located in Ripon, Wisconsin, where he attended school. In October, 1868, being then a young man in his twenty-third year, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and engaged in agriculture in Greenwood Prairie, Elgin Township. In 1870 he was married to Anna J. Mathews, and for 43 years he and his wife labored industriously on their farm two miles west of Plainview, until failing health induced them to move to town, where they purchased a comfortable residence. The history of their early privations would make a romantic story, and in his later years Mr. Reich was sometimes accustomed to indulge in interesting reminiscences of that early period, during which his wife was the faithful companion of the joys and sorrows, as well as of his labors. Those days and years of strenuous toil developed in him the qualities of thrift, frugality and prudence, with many other fine traits of character which endeared him to a large circle of friends, who sometimes gathered around him and enjoyed a visit to this hospitable home. For some time previous to his death he had been in poor health, yet the end came as a severe shock to his family and friends. The funeral services were held at his home Tuesday afternoon, June 29, the Rev. J. R. Hitchcock, of the M. E. church, to which Mr. Reich and his family belonged, and the Rev. H. C. Todd, of the Congregational church, a close friend of the deceased, making appropriate remarks. Representatives of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' lodges were in attendance, and conducted the services at the grave. A number of relatives, some from distant points, also attended the funeral. Mr. Reich was one of the charter members of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery; and was also interested in the first local telephone company. For over 30 years he had been a member of the Odd Fellows, and for over 20 years of the Masonic order, having been one of the organizers of the Elgin lodge. For some time, also, he was an active and useful member of the school board. To Mr. and Mrs. Reich were born eight children: Henry W., Edward H., Albert J., Jennie I., John S., Anna Mary, Mollie L. and Stephen Mathew. Henry W., who now lives on the old Reich farm in Elgin Township, married Celia Hostettler, and has two children, Anna Mary and James Henry. Edward H. is a resident of St. Paul, Minn. Albert J., now of Oakwood Township, married Emma Stephan, and has three children, Jennie I., Luella H., and Esther Louise. Jennie I. is the wife of Ernest Wedge, and the mother of three children. John S. is residing at home. Emma Mary is now Mrs. Fred Weikel, of Plainview. Mollie L. is the wife of Lewis Hostettler, of Elgin, and has two children, Edward L. and Stella May. Stephen Mathew, who lives in St. Paul, married Carrie Hanson, and has two children, Herman Stephen and Gilbert Paul. Mrs. Anna J. Reich, widow of the subject of this sketch, was born at Horsehead, Chemung County, New York, daughter of Henry E. and Jane E. (Clark) Mathews, the father being a native of New York State and the mother of Ireland. Mr. Mathews' business was that of a cigar manufacturer. Mrs. Mathews died when her daughter



Anna J., was 13 years old, and three years later, in 1868, the latter accompanied her father and the other members of the family to Greenwood Prairie, Wabasha County, Minnesota. The journey was made by rail to La Crosse, then up the Mississippi river on the steamer Keokuk to Winona, and thence overland to their destination. After residing on his farm for three years, he returned East, but two years later came back to Wabasha County. Mrs. Reich's marriage has already been related. Since his death she has continued to reside at their old home in Plainview. Although the eldest of her parents' children, she is the only one now living. For twelve years she has been a member of the Rebekah lodge here, in which she has held various offices, serving now as treasurer; for six years she has belonged to the Eastern Star Chapter, and for ten years has been a member of the Woman's Relief Corps. Her social activities have made her widely known, and among her friends and acquaintances she is esteemed as a willing worker and an agreeable companion, as she has been a faithful wife and kind and loving mother.

**Herman Becker**, a former merchant of Elgin, where he established and conducted a prosperous furniture business, was a native of Germany who came to the United States at the age of 18 years, landing at New York City. From there he came west to Iowa, which state he reached with only five cents in his pocket. In some way he obtained temporary assistance, and soon found work as a carpenter, though a cabinet-maker by trade. He was married in Iowa to Anna Lippe, and for 13 years they resided in Charles City, that state, Mr. Becker being employed in a furniture factory. A good musician, and skillful player on the cornet, he organized and led a number of bands, both in Charles City and at Mitchell, Iowa, where he subsequently bought and for two years conducted a furniture store. In 1897 he came with his family to Elgin, Wabasha County, Minn., and here engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, erecting a fine store, of which he was proprietor for 17 years, or until his death in October, 1914. His widow is still residing in the village. They had nine children, Emil, Clara, Arthur E., Alfred, Hattie, Anna, Frances, Helen and Margaret.

**Arthur E. Becker**, one of the partners in the Becker Bros. Music Co., of Plainview, is a business man of high reputation, who, although still young, has an enviable record. He was born at Charles City, Iowa, June 18, 1887, son of Herman and Anna (Lippe) Becker. He acquired his literary education in the schools of Charles City and Mitchell, Iowa, and the public and high school of Elgin, Minn., to which place he accompanied his parents in 1897. After that he was actively associated with his father in the furniture and undertaking business, and ultimately obtained licenses as undertaker and embalmer at Minneapolis. In 1906 he went to Plainview, where he was employed for eleven years as manager of the furniture department of Koenig Bros. & Co., at the same time conducting an undertaking business in conjunction with that concern. In 1916 he erected the Becker building on Broadway and established the Becker furniture and undertaking business, which he conducted until September, 1919, when he sold the building and furniture business to M. V. Foley. For some years Mr. Becker has been one of the partners in the Becker Bros. Music Co., he looking after the Plainview business while his brother and partner, Emil, conducts the Elgin store. This is quite an extensive and widely known concern, having a large trade in various musical instruments, including especially pianos, piano-players, and Edison phonographs. In addition to these activities, Mr. Becker is secretary and treasurer of the Posz Motor Co., of Plainview, handling the Chandler, Dodge Bros., and Cleveland motor cars. He has also been very active in building and selling houses in Plainview, in which line of enterprise he undoubtedly holds the record with respect to the number of houses thus added to the village. For two years Mr. Becker was president of the Southern Minnesota Funeral Directors' Association, and in 1912 he was a delegate from the State



Association to the National Convention held at Chattanooga, Tenn. He is a Scottish Rite Mason, and also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, and other fraternal societies, in which he takes an active interest. For four years also he served as county coroner, and is now a member of the Plainview village council, and of the Business Men's Club of the village. In all these various activities he has shown himself a "live wire," bringing a keen intelligence, backed by practical experience, upon every problem presented, and seldom failing to discern the right method of handling it. The acquirement of wealth has been for him a comparatively easy task, and he now enjoys a high financial standing, while socially he is popular and numbers among his friends practically all the leading citizens of Plainview and the vicinity. The Republican party claims his political allegiance. Seven years ago Mr. Becker assumed the responsibilities of domestic life, when on July 9, 1913, he was united in marriage with Ella Schwantz, of Plainview, who was born September 13, 1888. Of this union there is one child, Emogene, who was born July 2, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Becker are sincere and useful members of the Congregational church.

**Rudolph Burkhardt**, a very early settler in Wabasha County, who was for a number of years engaged in agriculture, and later in manufacturing industries, was born in Switzerland, was a babe when he came to America with his parents. After reaching maturity he was married in Wabasha to Barbara Turvina, like himself a native of Switzerland, who had come to this country at the age of 16 years. In early days Mr. Burkhardt was engaged in the butcher's business at Reed's Landing. He also purchased land and engaged in farming. Later he became interested in the manufacture of brick and lime, and this industry he followed in Wabasha and Plainview until 1904, when he retired. His death took place in August, 1917. For a year and nine months he had been a widower, his good wife having passed away in November, 1915. In the Civil War period Mr. Burkhardt showed his American spirit by joining Company G, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and in civil affairs he was equally patriotic and useful, becoming a very influential citizen among the early settlers. Both he and his wife were highly esteemed. They had in all a family of 13 children, of whom seven are now living, namely: Alfred G., now engaged in the produce business in Plainview; Anna, wife of Charles Jacobs, of West Albany Township; Rudolph, who is living on the old home farm in Pepin Township; Sophia, wife of Thomas Gilford, of Wabasha; Mary, residing on the farm; Lillie, now Mrs. Rocks, a widow; and Walter, who is on the farm.

**Alfred G. Burkhardt**, truck farmer and produce dealer, of Plainview, of which place he has been a resident for 24 years, was born in Pepin Township, this county, December 1, 1869, son of Rudolph and Barbara (Turvina) Burkhardt. He acquired his education in the public schools of Reed's Landing and Wabasha, and was subsequently associated with his father in the manufacture of brick and lime, also farming, at Wabasha until 1896, when he came to Plainview. Here he and his father established a brickyard and began the manufacture of brick. They also manufactured lime, having their kiln in the Township of Plainview, and did quite an extensive business, of which, in 1904, Alfred G. became the sole owner and manager. He continued in the business until 1910, and most of the later brick houses and business blocks were constructed of brick from his yard. He then engaged in the truck farming business, which he still follows, and in connection with it, for the past five years, he has also bought and sold produce. For a number of years he was interested with his brothers in the home estate at Wabasha, but has sold his interest in it to the other heirs. Mr. Burkhardt is a member of the Masonic order, the Yeomen, and the Odd Fellows, being a trustee of the last mentioned order. He is a progressive citizen, interested in the general welfare of the community, and conducts a flourishing business. He was married November 22, 1898, to Anna Petit, and has three children: Alfred A., now a student at Hamline University; Frances and Elizabeth.



**Christ F. Umbreit**, who belongs to that leisured class of retired agriculturists who help to swell the population of the villages of the county, is a man who has behind him an active and enterprising career. He was born in Coburg, Germany, September 29, 1839, son of Henry Jacob and Henrietta (Beck) Umbreit, and was in his thirteenth year when he accompanied his parents and their seven other children to America, his first home in this country being in Washington County, Wisconsin. From there the family came in 1863 to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling on a farm of 160 acres in Glasgow Township, where the parents followed agriculture for many years. They finally retired to Wabasha, where both died. Christ F. Umbreit was educated in public and private schools in Germany, and remained with his parents until 1862, when he preceded them to Wabasha County and took a homestead of 160 acres in section 4, Highland Township. As the land was wild there was much hard work to be done, and he bent himself to the task with energy and resolution, grubbing and clearing, and erecting necessary buildings, including a small house. It was during the strenuous days of the Civil War; times were hard and money scarce, and the draft was a contingency which might affect any able-bodied man with little warning. Moreover, patriotic sentiment was strong in the community, and Mr. Umbreit, feeling its impulses stirring in his own breast, resolved to take a voluntary part in the struggle for the perpetuation of the Union. On October 3, 1864, therefore, he enlisted for service in Company A, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, was later transferred to Company M, and remained with the organization until his honorable discharge, September 27, 1865. He then returned to Wabasha County and resumed work on his farm, remaining on the place for a total period of twelve years. Then he bought 160 acres in section 25, Highland Township, to which farm he later added 20 acres more, increasing its area to 180 acres. There he followed general agriculture, during the early period enduring hardship and privation, but making gradual and steady progress, until in the course of time he found himself in possession of a competence, and with the standing of a representative farmer and citizen of the county. In 1915 Mr. Umbreit sold his farm and retired to Plainview, buying his present residence on Jefferson street, where he is now in the enjoyment of a well earned leisure. During his active career for six years he rendered public service as treasurer of School District No. 40. Mr. Umbreit was married in October, 1863, to Eva Rheingans, who was born in Germany, October 28, 1844, and who came to America in 1847 with her parents, Jacob and Eva Rheingans. The children born of this union were as follows: Anna, born October 23, 1866, now Mrs. Fred Hansmeier, of Waukon, Iowa; Bertha, born October 24, 1868, who is the wife of Philo Darling, of Greenwood Prairie; Laura, born August 28, 1870, who married John Plein, and died November 20, 1902; William, who died in infancy; Henry, born April 1, 1876, who is operating a farm of 240 acres bought by his father in 1901; Albert, born August 10, 1880, who has always resided at home; and Clara and Edward, who are deceased. Mr. Umbreit is a member of the Congregational church, and in politics is independent.

**Gen. Seth L. McCarty**, in former days an honored resident of Plainview, who had a notable military record, was born in Muncy, Lycoming County, Penn., June 9, 1808, son of Mr. and Mrs. William McCarty. He was educated in the common schools and remained in his native place until reaching his twenty-first year. During two years of that time he worked for John Crouse, a cabinet-maker of Muncy, with whom he learned the trade, which he followed later in Towanda, Bradford County, Penn., until the spring of 1832. He then went to Newmarket, Canada, where he opened a cabinet-shop. He continued in business there until the breaking out of the patriot war in 1837. This war at once furnished him the opportunity that his military nature sought, and he soon found a place on General McKenzie's staff, and was immediately employed to bear dispatches to divers members of the Dominion parliament concerned in





MR. AND MRS. CHRISTIAN UMBREIT







the revolt. On his good stout war horse he performed this task, that required not a little nerve and energy. Frequently the enemy crowded him in close pursuit, on one occasion forcing him to ride a distance of 52 miles in six hours, and on another 68 miles in eight hours. He was next transferred to Gen. Van Rensselaer's staff, and served under him until the winter of 1837-8, when he was sent to the support of General McClellan, of the Western division, and remained with him until the war closed. General McCarty led the forces that stormed and captured Windsor, opposite Detroit, and it was after this battle, in which he displayed great bravery and military genius, that he was raised from the rank of colonel to that of brigadier-general. With the close of this war terminated the active military life of General McCarty. He soon after resigned his commission and removed to Detroit, Mich., and the following year to Port Huron, in the same state, where he continued to reside until 1855, when he came to Minnesota and located on the southeast quarter of section 21, in Plainview Township. There he gave himself up to the peaceful pursuit of agriculture, the even tenor of his subsequent life being disturbed only on the occasion of the Indian outbreak in Minnesota in 1862, when he went to the front. He held a commission in the state militia from 1860. Two years after his settlement in Minnesota a post office was established at his house under the name of Independence, of which office he was postmaster until it was discontinued in 1862. General McCarty was the first settler in southwest Plainview. He always affiliated with the Democratic party, and was a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was married in York County, Canada, in 1835, to Rebecca McCausland, daughter of James and Anna McCausland, and their children were: James, who became a farmer in Plainview Township; David, who took up farming in Winona County; Mary Ann, who married Samuel Loy, of Spokane County, Wash.

**John F. Bolton**, of the firm of Bolton Brothers, druggists, Plainview, is descended on both sides of the house from the earliest Greenwood Prairie settlers, and is well known throughout the community for his active interest in the development of the region in the history of which his relatives have had so important a part. He was born in Plainview, April 15, 1881, son of Thomas G. and Ella (Foster) Bolton, and has here spent his life. He passed through the graded schools and in 1900 was graduated from the Plainview High School. In 1905 he entered the University of Minnesota and two years later was graduated from the course in pharmacy, a profession with which he had been more or less connected with since early boyhood. He was also for a time associated with his father in several other ventures, including the Plainview News. In 1907 he became associated with his brother, Miller T., in the drug business, known as the Bolton Drug Store, a popular and well patronized concern, to which he has since devoted his time exclusively. He is a substantial figure in Plainview business life. Fraternally he is associated with the Odd Fellows.

Mr. Bolton was married September 1, 1910, to Vera M. Saxe, born at Plainview, September 22, 1888, daughter of Theodore Saxe, at that time a well-known photographer of Plainview, who moved to Inglewood, California, in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Bolton have three children: Roger V., born October 5, 1912; Philip L., born November 15, 1915, and Lorine V., born May 13, 1917. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Miller T. Bolton**, of the Bolton Drug Store Company, Plainview, is one of the active men in the affairs of the village, and is doing his share toward the general prosperity of the country. He was born in Eyota, Olmstead County, this state, October 27, 1871, son of Thomas G. and Ella (Foster) Bolton. He was brought to Plainview by his parents as an infant, and here passed through the public schools, graduating from the Plainview High School in 1888. In the meanwhile he had spent much of his spare time in his father's drug store, and early became imbued with the idea of following his father's profession.



Accordingly in 1892 he entered the University of Minnesota and pursued the regular course in pharmacy, being graduated from that course in 1894. Then returning to Plainview, he associated himself with his father in the drug business. In 1907 the firm of the Bolton Drug Store was formed with Miller T. and John F. as partners, and this firm has since continued to do a prosperous business. The brothers have a neat store, well equipped, and carry a good line of drugs, stationery and novelties. Fraternally Mr. Bolton is a member of Illustrious Lodge No. 63, and of the Odd Fellows. He was married August 28, 1901, to Myrtle L. Mallory, of Plainview, who was born November 10, 1877, the daughter of J. W. Mallory, who died in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Bolton have four children: Ella M., born October 17, 1902; Ruth E., born January 1, 1907; Mary E., born May 17, 1911, and Mallory T., born March 30, 1915.

**Thomas G. Bolton**, business man, agriculturist, druggist, editor and city official, for many years exerted a strong influence upon the affairs of Plainview and the surrounding territory. As a business man he was ever alive to Plainview's best interest; as a druggist he was accurate, courteous and obliging; as a newspaper man he labored constantly for the progress of the village; as an official he succeeded in introducing a number of municipal improvements; and as an agriculturist he foresaw the future and ever urged the breeding of better stock and the adoption of constantly improving methods. He was born in Logan, Ohio, November 12, 1843, the son of Graham and Nancy (Miller) Bolton. The father was born in County Derry, Ireland, in 1816, and died in 1852. He was married in New Jersey, in 1837, to Nancy Miller, who, like himself, was a native of County Derry, Ireland, and born in the same year, on April 19, 1816. She had come to America as a girl and met Mr. Bolton for the first time in New Jersey. In 1842, accompanied by their two first born children, Ruth and John, they settled in Logan County, Ohio. Later two other children were born to them, Thomas G. and Martha. After Graham Bolton's death his widow removed with her four children to Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1855 brought them to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling in Wabasha. She spent a long and useful life here, and died at the home of her son, Thomas G., at Plainview, September 12, 1898. Thomas G. Bolton came to Wabasha with his mother and the other members of the family, when that city consisted of a few buildings on the banks of the Mississippi river. When about fourteen years of age, he spent two years as a cabin boy on a Mississippi steamboat. In 1861 he commenced his long business career as a druggist in the employ of James Crowley, of Wabasha, and in 1863 he assumed the management of the first drug store in Plainview, opened as a branch of the Wabasha store. Two years later he returned to the Wabasha store for a short time, but soon started a drug store of his own in Eyota, where he lived several years. In 1874 he returned to Plainview for a permanent residence, again engaging in the drug business, this time as a partner of George S. La Rue, whom he later bought out. This, however, was only one of many business activities. For a while he was Plainview agent for the Laird-Norton Co. of Winona, and for some time he was an implement dealer. He also found time for the development of a fine farm on the site of the old village of Greenville, one of the deserted store buildings of that village being used by him as a sheep shed. He was one of the most progressive farmers of the county, at a time when scientific farming was not so common as at present, he being one of the first to introduce superior breeds of blooded stock on Greenwood Prairie. He was editor of the Plainview News, which was the development of smaller papers which he had previously published in Plainview and Eyota. He held several important city offices, and was a leader in all the progressive movements for advancing the welfare of the community, one of the most beneficial being the organization of the Electric Light Co. of which he was manager until his illness. Not only in the business world was his influence strongly felt, but also in the social and religious life of the city. His ready humor, inexhaustible fund of stories, reminiscences of his travels, prac-



tical wisdom and literary tastes, made him a delightful companion, and the generous hospitality of his home, gathered about him a large circle of friends, by whom he is still sadly missed. Mr. Bolton's life exemplifies strongly the fact that hardships of pioneering tend to develop all one's latent powers, for probably considerable of his ability as a leader, resourcefulness and power of initiative were gained during those early years of our country's history. He took an active part in the Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers' Association, regretting exceedingly that he could not attend the 1917 meeting, the last meeting before his death. Although he had received but a common school education he was a life-long student, reading extensively and gaining a wealth of valuable information from various sources, as well as by keen observation. For many years he was a prominent member and officer of the Methodist Episcopal church, a fine Bible student, and a Sunday school worker. He was a member of the Masonic brotherhood, and the Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Bolton was married September 1, 1869, to Ella Foster, only child of A. P. and Harriet (Thompson) Foster, and this union was blessed with four children, Alonzo C., Miller T., Mary L. and John F. Mrs. Ella Foster Bolton died October 7, 1884. Alonzo G. was born June 15, 1870, and died November 15, 1887. He was a high school student and deeply beloved for his upright life and engaging qualities. Miller T. and John F. are Plainview druggists. Mary Lee was born July 1, 1874, was educated in the Plainview schools, enlisted in the service of the W. F. M. S., was sent to France, where she did notable work in the war, and in the devastated regions after the war, and returned to America in November, 1919.

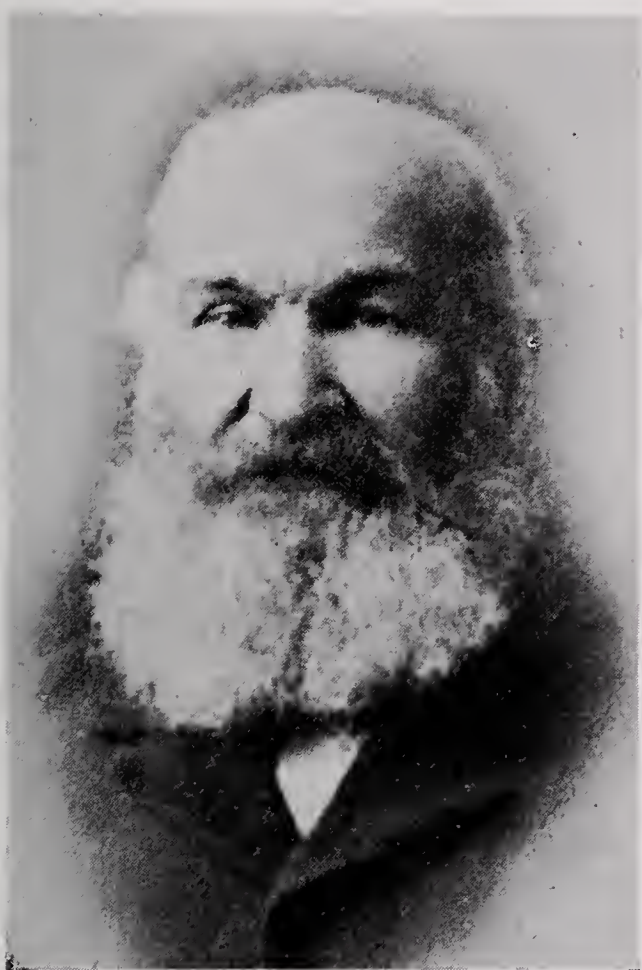
**Alonzo P. Foster**, member of the Territorial Legislature, farmer, stock fancier, town builder and educator, was for many years a commanding figure in Wabasha County life. He was a man of good principle, sound judgment, and one of those men who are of benefit to any community in which they live. He will live in history as one of the founders of the historic but now deserted Greenville, and as the platter of additions to Winona and Plainview. In the story of the economic development of the state, he will take his place as one of the pioneer breeders of fine stock. At one time he owned one of the best Jersey herds in the state, sold prize cattle throughout the Mississippi Valley, and won premiums at the Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1892-93 as well as at State and County Fairs. Alonzo P. Foster was born in Orange, Orange County, Vermont, May 5, 1816, son of Lemuel and Cloe (Powers) Foster, and descended through several notable New England families from Scotch ancestry. He was the youngest of nine children, all of whom lived to an advanced age, and all of whom he survived. His parents were early settlers of Orange, where with great industry and economy, and with many privations they conquered the forest and secured for themselves and their children a farmstead of stony, ungenerous soil. The father dying while the subject of this sketch was yet in his early youth, and the elder brothers going forth in their early manhood to seek homes of their own, it fell upon Alonzo, as he attained suitable years, to assist his mother and the other children, in wresting a living from the backwoods farm. Being strong of limb and of industrious habits, he succeeded in this endeavor and in time came into the possession of the place. The educational opportunities of the neighborhood were limited, but being a natural student, with keen observation and acute perceptions, he acquired a fund of information that placed him far ahead of his neighbors. In 1854, he decided to seek broader opportunities in a wider arena. He had some idea of devoting his life to the educational field, and with that end in view became preceptor of the Troy Conference Academy, at West Poughkeepsie, New York, over which his cousin, Rev. Jason F. Walker, presided. But interested as he was in education he determined to try his fortunes in agricultural fields in the great Northwest. Accordingly in the spring of 1855 he came to Minnesota, and located on the southeast quarter of section 11, in Plainview Township, this county. This was



within the Half Breed tract and was not open to settlers, but afterward arrangements were made by which the squatters perfected their titles. With three others, Mr. Foster platted the village of Greenville, at one time a rival of Plainview, but now remembered only in the annals of the early settlers. His farming operations, however, proved more profitable than the village project, and he early accumulated a competence. In 1864 he sold his holdings here, and decided to make another venture at town building by platting an addition to Winona, which is still known as Foster's addition. In 1878, he returned to Plainview, and platted an addition to the village. In this addition he made his home, at the same time managing his large farm in section 36, Oakwood Township, where he specialized in Jersey cattle and Norman-Percheron horses. From its foundation he was active in the affairs of the Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers' Association, served as one of its officers, and delivered some of its most eloquent and valuable speeches. After a long and useful life, he died at Winona, December 17, 1897. In politics Mr. Foster was first a Whig, later joined the Abolitionists, and still later became a Republican. In 1855 he sat as a member of the last Minnesota Territorial Legislature. Of him it has been said: "As a citizen he was a bright example in every way, temperate and moral at every point. In all matters of popular and higher education he was an earnest and constant promoter, and an ever-ready help and contributor to every good enterprise. He was tolerant of every man's thoughts and beliefs, even when opposed to his own; dignified in his dealings with men and affairs, honest in all his transactions, and abounding in helpfulness, benevolence and charity, even to the limit of his personal means. Mr. Foster married Harriet Thompson, a native of Orange County, Vermont. She died in 1851, leaving one daughter, Ella, who married Thomas G. Bolton.

**Antwine La Rocque**, a retired farmer residing in Plainview, was born at St. Jerome, Province of Quebec, Canada, February 18, 1841, son of Anwell and Orlea (Willett) La Rocque. The father was a laborer by occupation and Antwine for a number of years was similarly employed. On November 4, 1865, Antwine was married, in East Hawkesbury, Upper Canada, to Catharine Blaney, who was born in Caledonia, Upper Canada, March 2, 1840, daughter of George and Elizabeth (McKee) Blaney, her parents being natives of Ireland. Settling on a small farm, he engaged in agriculture, and continued that occupation in Canada until 1882, in the fall of which year he came with his family to Wabasha County, Minnesota, arriving at Plainview, and then taking a farm at Woodland, in Plainview Township, on which was a log house, with straw sheds and an old granary. Mr. La Rocque improved the place by building a comfortable residence and other buildings, though it took him some time, as he arrived here with little more than one thousand dollars, and had to pay that amount down for his farm of 80 acres. But in time he made it into one of the best farms of its size in this part of the county. In the fall of 1913 he retired and took up his residence in Plainview village, where he owns a nice residence on East North street. He also still owns the farm, which is now operated by his son Henry. Mr. and Mrs. La Rocque have had nine children, all of whom are living, except one, and reside in and about Plainview. Of the children, George was born October 31, 1866; Charles H., October 15, 1868; Elizabeth Ann, September 19, 1870; Mary Catharine Orle, September 21, 1872; Margaret Jane, August 28, 1874; William Albert and Alexander (twins), October 17, 1876; James Henry, February 15, 1879, and Ellen Maria, February 15, 1882. George, who is single, is living at home. Charles H., who is a farmer in Quincy Township, Olmsted County, married Gertrude Hassig, and she died July 13, 1907. Elizabeth Ann is now Mrs. Wilford Edwards of Plainview. Mary Catharine Orlea was graduated from the Winona General Hospital as a trained nurse, July 12, 1910, and has been kept fully employed at her profession. She resides with her parents in Plainview, attends the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a lady widely known and respected. Margaret Jane is keeping house for her brother Charles





MR. AND MRS. ANTWINE LA ROCQUE







in Quincy, Olmsted County. William Albert, who married Bridget Sullivan, died on the same day as his wife, October 29, 1918. They left four children, Arthur, Catherine, Loretta and Bernard. Alexander is married and is a farmer at Webb Lake, Wis. James Henry is married and living on the home farm at Woodland. Ellen Maria is residing at home. Mr. La Rocque has always affiliated with the Democratic party. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal church, while the children attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. La Rocque now have fourteen grandchildren and four great grandchildren. On Thursday, November 4, 1915, they celebrated their golden wedding, having been married just fifty years. The occasion was a notable one. Besides the family there were present twenty-two old friends and neighbors. The home was prettily decorated in white and yellow, and an old-fashioned dinner was served at 12 o'clock. The tables were nicely spread with good things, and when all were seated about the festal board, the honored couple, perhaps feeling slightly older, were just as happy as fifty years ago. During the afternoon they were presented with a number of gold pieces, and several other beautiful presents, including a great many golden chrysanthemums and bouquets of flowers. They were the recipients of hearty congratulations and many good wishes for the future, and the important event was thus happily celebrated.

**John Boehlke**, formerly an active and successful farmer in Elgin and Plainview Townships, but now deceased, was born in Germany. He married Justine Reiter, also a native of that country, and in 1872 they located near Potsdam, Minn., where they resided two years. Then coming to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, they rented farms until 1888, in which year they bought a farm in Plainview Township, also renting in addition a tract of 480 acres, of which, four years later, they bought 150 acres. There they remained and built up a fine farm, Mr. Boehlke adding to its area until it contained 400 acres. After a useful and successful career, he died in the year 1902. Mrs. Boehlke is still living in Plainview.

**J. L. Boehlke**, manager of the Gilchrist & Co. elevator at Plainview, was born in Elgin Township, this county, March 30, 1880, son of John and Justine (Reiter) Boehlke. He acquired his education in the district school, and remained on his parents' farm until 1901. In that year, on August 15, he became an employee of the elevator company as the second man in charge, and occupied that position until April 1, 1902, when he returned home. On August 8, the same year, he resumed his position in the elevator, being second man until March 1, 1903, when he was promoted to be manager of the elevator belonging to the company then known as the American Malting Company. With them he remained until 1905, when the elevator was turned over to the Western Elevator Company, after which he was continued in the management by the new owners until 1915, when the property was bought by Gilchrist & Co., of McGregor, Iowa, in whose employ he has since remained. The company handles grain, fuel and seeds, and do quite a profitable business, Mr. Boehlke exercising careful supervision over every detail. Aside from his business interests in this direction, he is holder of some valuable farm lands in the Dakotas, and owns a nice residence in Plainview. As a citizen interested in the welfare of the community, and conversant with its needs, he has cheerfully devoted a part of his time to the public service, for three years formerly being a member of the board of education, and mayor of Plainview for three years, from 1916 to 1918, inclusive. He was also re-elected to the latter position in 1919, but was obliged to decline service owing to the demands of his increasing business. On October 21, 1903, Mr. Boehlke was married to Bertha C. Kitzman, who was born in Olmsted County, Minn., in May, 1880, daughter of Michael and Augusta (Reinke) Kitzman. Mrs. Boehlke died November 22, 1908, leaving one child, Maurice G., who was born June 18, 1905. Since his wife's death Mr. Boehlke's household has been presided over by his sister Emma. The family are members of the Lutheran church.



**Benjamin Bennett**, now living retired in the village of Weaver, has been a resident of Wabasha County for nearly 54 years, and during his active career contributed his share toward the development of its agricultural resources. He was born in Kentucky, and came to this county in 1866. He married Mary E. Peterson, who had arrived here ten years before him, their wedding, however, taking place in Minnesota. About the time of his marriage, or soon after, Mr. Bennett took a homestead of 80 acres in section 31, Watopa Township, and began the arduous task of developing a farm from wild and heavily timbered land. The labor involved in cutting down the trees, grubbing and breaking the land, and erecting necessary buildings, is but little appreciated by the present generation, but was all too familiar to the early settlers of the county who laid the foundations of its present prosperity. In this work Mr. Bennett had his share, but he also reaped his reward in a fine farm of 440 acres, with good buildings, he having purchased more land from time to time, as he made progress with the development of that previously purchased. There he farmed until 1892, when he went to Nelson, Wis., where he remained four years. Returning subsequently to Wabasha County, he took up his residence in a neat little cottage on the outskirts of the village of Weaver, where he is now living at the advanced age of 83 years. His wife died on the farm in Watopa Township in 1892. They had a family of ten children, namely: James, of Highland Township, this county; Frank L., a real estate dealer of Plainview; Charles, residing in Winona; Cyrus, who died in 1900; Byron, now on the home farm in Watopa Township; Guy, who died at the age of eight years; Herbert, who is farming in Montana; Florence, deceased; and Harry, who is engaged in the business of well digging.

**Frank L. Bennett**, a prosperous and well known business man and real estate dealer of Plainview, was born in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, Minn., June 11, 1872, son of Benjamin and Mary E. (Peterson) Bennett. His education was acquired in District School No. 82, this county, and he resided on his parents' farm until reaching the age of 18 years. From that time until he was 21 he followed various occupations—whatever might furnish him with a livelihood. Deciding finally that farming offered the best opportunity of making financial progress, he rented a farm in Plainview Township, which he operated for two years, at the end of that time renting the home farm in Watopa Township. This he operated for 13 years, or until 1909, in which year he came to Plainview village and engaged in the real estate business, which he is still carrying on, handling farm lands and town property, with profitable results. He has widened the scope of his operations, and besides having a one-fourth interest in the home farm established by his parents, he owns two 10-acre tracts which his son operates as truck farms; owns a small farm in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas; has a house and three acres in Wabasha, and a nice residence in the Village of Plainview, and also owns an interest in the Dewey Theatre here. These holdings are the reward of long-continued work and good business foresight, and all his transactions have been conducted on an honest and equitable basis. He is a member of the Masonic order, also of the Odd Fellows, including the Rebeckah lodge, and of the Woodmen. Formerly he served as assessor of Watopa Township, and also as enumerator of both Watopa and Plainview townships. Mr. Bennett was married March 31, 1896, to Edith Dittrich, who was born in Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, Minn., March 30, 1875, daughter of Ernest and Lucy (Reish) Dittrich. Her father and mother were natives respectively of Germany and Switzerland, and on settling in Winona County they engaged in farming. In 1893 they located with their family in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, where Mr. Dittrich is still living. His wife, mother of Mrs. Bennett, died in 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have two children: Percy F., born February 22, 1898; and Floyd C., born December 6, 1903, the last mentioned of whom is now a student in the Plainview high school. Percy F. Bennett, who is engaged in truck farming,









HENRY WELTI AND FAMILY, MR. AND MRS. JOHN WELTI, MR. AND MRS. JOHN KEOUGH



married Phyllis Gorrell. During the recent war he entered the Great Lakes Training School as a common seaman, and after nine months' service was discharged as first class musician. He plays the trombone in both orchestra and band. Mr. Bennett and his family are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a Republican.

**John Keough**, an early settler, and for many years a substantial resident, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, on June 27, 1840. In 1862 he came to America and in time found his way to Plainview, in this county, where for several years he was variously employed. By hard work and frugal life he saved enough to make the first payment on a farm of 120 acres in section 17, Oakwood Township, and to the management, upbuilding and development of this farm he devoted the remainder of his life. He died April 29, 1909. Mr. Keough was a devout member of the Catholic church, a considerate father and kind husband. At the time of his death the Millville Review said of him: "Few of us will live so long or so well," and the entire community felt that the words were true. Mr. Keough was married November 5, 1874, to Ellen Hollihan, born in Greenfield Township, this county, February 14, 1856, daughter of John and Mary Hollihan, the pioneers. Immediately after their marriage the young couple began the building of a house on the homestead, two miles east of Millville, which now stands as a monument to the thrift, energy, and economy of their daily lives. Their happy home was blessed with nine children: Mary, Katherine, Agnes, John, William, Theresa, Veronica (deceased), Frances, and Joseph of St. Paul. Mary died in infancy. Katherine is the wife of Henry Welti, of Plainview. Agnes lives in McIntosh, S. D. John is manager of the Botsford Lumber yard at Plainview. William married Sarah McGuigan, and lives on the home farm. Theresa is the wife of William McGuigan, of McIntosh, S. D. Frances is the wife of William Hagen, of Rhinelander, Wis. Mrs. Keough, like her husband was a devout member of the Catholic church. She was a loving wife and mother, and a friend to all, devoting her life to her religion and the building up of a home for the comfort of those she loved. Her pleasant disposition, her kindly words, and her happy greetings were her distinguishing characteristics. She died September 10, 1908, and is laid to rest in St. Patrick's Cemetery, West Albany, this county.

**Henry Welti**, now residing in Plainview Village on a competence acquired in the farming industry, was born in Oakwood Township, this county, March 4, 1865. He acquired his education in District School No. 85, and was brought up to agricultural pursuits on the parental homestead, where he remained until he was 30 years of age, for a number of years being associated with his father in the management of the place. In 1895 he bought a farm in Elgin Township, consisting of 160 acres, or the northwest quarter of section 3, and this he operated on his own account, making extensive improvements on the place, including the erection of a large, modern nine-room house, a barn, 28 by 50 feet, and other outbuildings. His residence there lasted 19 years, or until 1914, when he sold the farm and bought one of 160 acres in section 16. In the spring of 1919 he added to it 80 acres more, thus increasing its area to 240 acres. Previous to this, however, he had erected on the original tract of this farm a fine barn, 36 by 60 feet in size. His own residence on the place was terminated in 1918, when he retired from active work and moved to Plainview Village. During the latter part of his active career he made a specialty of dairying, keeping a good herd of milch cows. As a farmer he was successful, while his character as a good neighbor and reliable citizen was thoroughly established in the community. For some time he rendered efficient service as clerk of School District No. 85. His present ease and independent circumstances were won by hard work and therefore are the better enjoyed. He is a member of the Catholic church, and politically a Democrat. Mr. Welti was married July 19, 1904, to Catherine Keough, who has proved a faithful wife and wise and loving mother. They have had seven children: Marion, born June



5, 1905, who died December 25, 1916; Helen, born May 28, 1907; Elizabeth, June 2, 1909; John, June 20, 1911; Edith, March 13, 1913; Eugene, May 12, 1915, and Catherine, June 28, 1917.

**Charles R. Petrich**, one of the builders of Wabasha County, his energies being directed along the line of agricultural improvements, who has passed away leaving behind him an honorable record, was born at Potsdam, Olmsted County, Minn., November 30, 1868. He was educated in the district school and resided at home until 22 years of age, at which time he began an independent career, purchasing a farm at Woodland in Plainview Township. It contained 120 acres and was partly improved, and Mr. Petrich set to work to develop it still further, a task for which he was fully competent. Besides breaking what remained of wild land, he rebuilt the house, erected new out-buildings, and fenced the entire farm. Later he increased his property holdings by the purchase of 40 acres of timber land. There he carried on general farming with great success until his death on February 23, 1914. He was a man of sterling qualities, much esteemed, and his passing left a void not easily filled. Mr. Petrich was married August 27, 1890, to Ernestina Zabel, who was born at Potsdam, Olmsted County, January 27, 1870, and who, after his death conducted the farm until 1916, when she moved to Plainview, buying a fine residence on West Broadway. She still owns the farm, which she rents out. Mr. and Mrs. Petrich were the parents of six children: Ida B., born March 29, 1891; Clara L., November 14, 1892; Alfred C., October 3, 1894; Arthur F., August 15, 1896; Belva L., October 4, 1905; and Thiel Marie, April 17, 1910. Ida B. was graduated from the Plainview high school, the Winona normal school and the Minnesota State University, and is now dean of women at the Girls' Academy, at Hebron, Neb. Clara L. was graduated a trained nurse from the Hahnemann Hospital at Chicago. Alfred C. graduated from the Plainview high school and the Minnesota State University, and is now following the profession of electrical engineer at New York City. Arthur F. is connected with the telephone business at Minneapolis. Belva L. is a student in the high school and Thiel Marie in the public school of Plainview. The older children have received good educational advantages, which are being extended also to the younger, and all are showing a disposition to make the most of their opportunities. The family are members of the Lutheran church, to which Mr. Petrich also belonged.

**John N. Donaldson**, now living retired in Plainview, comes of a prominent family in Wabasha County, of which he is a worthy representative. He was born February 11, 1881, in Plainview Township, on the farm of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Donaldson, and was educated in the district school and the Plainview high school. Until he was 21 years old he remained on the home farm, assisting his father. After that, for five years, he was engaged on his own account in conducting both the home farm and another one adjoining it. He then rented a farm in the vicinity, which he conducted for two years. Then moving to Plainview, he followed teaming for a year and a half in the village. At the end of that period farming again claimed his attention, and he purchased a farm of 160 acres in Quincy Township, Olmsted County, on which he made considerable improvements, remodeling some of the buildings, and erecting new ones, and putting up fences until he had brought the place into admirable condition. There he followed general agriculture successfully until the fall of 1919, when, as a result of his industry he found himself in a position to retire from farming, and accordingly moved to Plainview, where he purchased his pleasant residence on Jefferson street. While engaged in agriculture he served on the school board of his district, and has always shown on intelligent and helpful interest in public affairs. To some extent he still keeps occupied, occasionally doing a little carpenter work. Mr. Donaldson was married, June 19, 1907, to Winnifred Woodward, who was born in Elgin Township, July 26, 1885. Two children have come to brighten their home: Marian D., born February 3, 1910; and Glenn H., born March 10, 1915.









CHARLES F. BRUSEHAVER AND FAMILY



**John Brusehaver**, who was the practical founder of what is now one of the fine farms of West Albany Township, situated in section 5, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, where he grew to manhood and married Sophia Mahler. In the late seventies he came with his family to Minnesota, and settled first in Gillford Township, Wabasha County. After a while he bought the farm above mentioned, in section 5, West Albany, which contained 160 acres, but had a poor set of buildings. He at once set to work to improve it, a task that took him a number of years, but on which he made good progress, erecting new buildings, and cultivating the soil with profitable results until 1903, when he leased the place to his son Charles F. and took up his residence, with his wife, in Lake City. There he died March 23, 1908, and his wife on January 15, 1912. Their married life was tinged with joys and sorrows, in which the sorrow at one time seemed to predominate, as within one month, during an epidemic of diphtheria, they lost four of their five children, three sons and a daughter, the only survivor being Charles F., now the owner of the home farm.

**Charles F. Brusehaver**, who owns and operates an excellent farm in section 5, West Albany Township, which was the home of his parents, was born in Gillford Township, Wabasha County, Minn., March 3, 1881, son of John and Sophia (Mahler) Brusehaver. He acquired his preliminary education in the district school, and subsequently attended Lake City Commercial College during the winters of 1898-9 and 1899-0. Since early childhood he has resided on the parental homestead, where he thoroughly learned the science of farming, an occupation which he has continued to follow with good financial results. He has made various improvements on the farm, now having an eight-room, two-story frame residence, gas-lighted; and in 1911, he built a fine circular barn, 70 feet in diameter, with 16-foot posts, and full 8-foot basement. Later he built a stave silo of 100-ton capacity, has a steel windmill, and owns a five-passenger car. His cattle are mostly high grade Guernseys, but he is also breeding some Guernsey registered stock, while his hogs are of the Duroc Jersey variety. His ample equipment includes a large tractor. In addition to his farming interests, he has held the office of school director for six years, he is a stockholder and for two years was treasurer of the Lake Pepin Co-operative Creamery Co. of Lake City, a stockholder in the Lake City Co-operative Elevator Co., and the Terminal Packing Company of Newport, Minn., and a stockholder in the Wabasha County Leader, of Wabasha, and is one of the organizers and directors of the new Farmers Milling Co., of Lake City. Mr. Brusehaver first married Anna Luetjen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Luetjen of Mt. Pleasant Township. She died in 1917, leaving five children, namely: Eugene John, born November 4, 1903; Lorinda Mary, December 1, 1904; Emma Henrietta, May 23, 1906; Fritz Frank, November 24, 1907, and Gladys Frances, April 3, 1911, all of whom are now residing at home. Mr. Brusehaver married secondly, October 8, 1919, Emma Prigge, daughter of Hein and Mattie Prigge, of Lake Township, Wabasha County. They have one daughter, Dorothy, born June 1, 1920. He is a member of the Non-Partisan League and of the German Lutheran church, he and his family worshipping with the Jacksonville congregation in Gillford Township, Wabasha County.

**William Donaldson**, one of the pioneer settlers of Plainview Township, of which for 30 years he was a well known and respected resident, was born in Canonsburg, Washington County, Pa., February 16, 1805. In 1830, in Washington, that county, he was married to Eliza F. Biles, who was born in Monroe County, Pa., June 30, 1806, and who had crossed the mountains with her people and settled in what was then the western frontier, the Ohio River valley, near Pittsburgh. In 1845 Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson moved to Cincinnati, which was their home until 1861, when they came to Minnesota, and located in section 31, Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Mr. Donaldson having a land warrant which he exchanged for 80 acres of wild land. This, in course of time, he improved and developed, erecting buildings, and carrying on agriculture there



until his death, July 27, 1891. After that event Mrs. Donaldson continued on the old homestead with her son Charles until July, 1893, when she went to live with her daughter, Mrs. E. M. Evans, in Plainview, at whose home she died, May 12, 1901, having survived her husband nearly ten years. Although in her ninety-fifth year, she was comparatively active and retained all her faculties until entering into her last long sleep. Before her marriage she united with the Baptist church, in which she always retained her membership. She was a woman of strong character, possessing many admirable traits, and at the close of a long and useful life she left more than the usual number of friends and acquaintances to mourn her departure. Her sojourn of forty years in the community had been marked by many acts of kindness, deeds of charity, and motherly helpfulness, for which she will long be held in remembrance. Her end was peaceful, as she had been in her usual health up to Saturday evening, May 11, only seeming a trifle restless when she retired, saying good night to the members of the family, and falling into a sleep from which she did not waken. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson were the parents of nine children; only four of whom survived her, namely: Mrs. E. M. Evans and Charles W. Donaldson, of Plainview; Mrs. Hester J. Cheatham, of Seattle, Wash., and Mrs. Anna E. Cheatham, of Aberdeen, S. D.

**Charles W. Donaldson**, now living retired in Plainview, has been a resident of Wabasha County for nearly 60 years, during which time he has seen it develop from a wilderness into perhaps the richest agricultural county in the state—a transformation which he himself helped to effect. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., November 25, 1841, son of William and Eliza J. (Biles) Donaldson, whom he accompanied at the age of about six years to Cincinnati, where he attended school. In 1861, a young man in his twentieth year, he came with them to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and to their farm in section 31, Plainview Township. There he helped his father with the preliminary improvements on the place; but events were in progress which interrupted his home pursuits for awhile. Not only was the Civil War being fought, but in 1862 occurred the desperate outbreak of the Sioux Indians, and the attack on New Ulm, Hutchinson and other places in Minnesota, and troops were called for to defend the white settlers. To this call Mr. Donaldson responded, enlisting in the Wabasha Rangers, with whom he saw service until the outbreak was quelled. Early in 1865 he enlisted as a private in the First Minnesota Light Artillery, expecting to get into the struggle between the North and the South, but the war soon after came to a close, and he was discharged the same year, at St. Paul. On his return home he resumed work on his parents' farm, which he worked for his father, and subsequently purchased. He increased its area to 180 acres, having 80 acres in section 32 and 100 in section 31, and made many other improvements, remodeling the house, building a good barn and milk-house, erecting a wind-mill and digging a well. There he followed diversified farming, keeping and raising good grades of hogs, sheep, horses and cattle, his operations, conducted with energy and experience, bringing him a good financial reward. In 1899 Mr. Donaldson rented the farm to his son, Wilson, but continued to reside on it, until 1901, when he bought the house in town in which he has since lived. It was on February 14, 1867, that Charles W. Donaldson was united in marriage with Nancy E. Cheatham, at his bride's home in section 31, Plainview Township. She was born November 24, 1840, daughter of Winston and Margaret (Wilson) Cheatham, natives of Kentucky who removed to Illinois, and from there came to Wabasha County in 1862. Both parents are now deceased. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson, as follows: Zula E., born January 19, 1868, is now Mrs. H. A. Weikel of Plainview; Lillian E., born April 22, 1870, is the wife of George Cotterell, of Dover, Minn.; Jennie C., born April 15, 1872, died July 13, 1916; Charles J., born December 7, 1874, and now a jeweler in Plainview, married Ann Schroeder; Ellen, born May 15, 1876, is the wife of Ed Messerschmidt; Winston R., born January 8, 1879,



now farming in Elgin Township, this county, married Goldie B. Yandon; John N., born February 11, 1881, married Winnifred Woodward. Mr. Donaldson is a member of Austin D. Carroll Post, No. 107, G. A. R., of which he was commander for six years. Since June, 1870, he has been a member of the Masonic order, and took his thirty-second degree at Winona. Politically he is identified with the Republican party. Though not active in the affairs of local government, he has always taken a good citizen's interest in the welfare and progress of the community in which he lived and his aid and influence can be relied on in behalf of any worthy project. Mrs. Donaldson died January 2, 1897.

**Frank A. Taylor**, who is an active factor in the business world of Plainview, proprietor of a first-class barber shop, handsomely equipped, was born in Whiteside County, Ill., November 17, 1870, son of William Chauncy and Jenette Taylor. The parents were natives of New York state, and were there married. They removed west to Illinois about 1862, locating on a farm, where they resided many years, the father, William C. Taylor, dying there in 1904. He enlisted for service in the Civil War, and was honorably discharged on account of disability. His wife, who survived him, is now living at Algonquin, Ill. Frank A. Taylor was educated in Illinois, attending the district and common schools during the winters; his summers, from the time he was old enough, being occupied in working on the home farm. At the age of 18 he went to Iowa, where he worked for a while in saw mills, and at Lyons, that state, he learned the barber's trade. About 1897 he came to Minnesota, locating at Elba, Winona County, where he spent nine years. In 1906 he came to Plainview, purchased a barber's shop, which he has since enlarged and thoroughly equipped in modern style, and which he is now conducting, enjoying a large patronage. He has taken an active interest in public affairs, and during the recent war served on different committees, also obtaining labor for farmers, and whatever he could to help the cause of his country. He belongs to the fraternal orders of Odd Fellows and Elks and enjoys a wide social popularity. Mr. Taylor was married June 26, 1907, at St. Charles, Minn., to Kate Teahen, daughter of Timothy and Jane Teahen, her parents being natives of Ireland, who took a farm at an early date in Olmsted County, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have three children: William, born in 1908; Francis, in 1909, and John in 1911, who are attending school in Plainview.

**Thomas Mills**, one of the honored pioneers of Wabasha County, long since passed away, was born in England in 1824, and was there educated and grew to manhood. He was also there married to Elizabeth Hitchcock, a native of that country, born in 1830, and in 1852 they emigrated to America. After one year's sojourn in New York state, they came to Minnesota, arriving at Read's Landing in 1853. In the following year they removed to Greenwood Prairie, in Plainview Township, and took a claim of 160 acres, it being the farm which is now owned by August Schad. It was then, however, all wild land. As the first step toward its improvement, Mr. Mills built a board shanty and some straw sheds. Then he broke the land and began agricultural operations. Some years later he sold that farm and bought another of the same size, and in the same township, it being now owned by Goetz. On this latter farm he followed diversified agriculture until his death in 1882. Mr. Mills was one of the first settlers on Greenwood Prairie, now become almost historic ground as the place of settlement of some of the leading families in the county. He was himself one of the foremost citizens of the locality, and an excellent and enterprising farmer. It is worthy of note that he was the first man in the locality to raise strawberries, marketing the first which were ever sold in Plainview that were of home production. He took an active part in enterprises of public concern, was ready to give his aid to every good cause, and, with his family, was affiliated with the Christian church. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mills were the parents of six children: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Lorenzo Underwood of Plainview; W. A., of Dodge Center, Minn.; Sarah, better known as "Middie," who was born in 1857,



married William Jackson, and died in 1887; John, born in 1855, who died in 1905; and Walter N. and Reed A., of Plainview. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Thomas) Mills, died in 1912, at the age of 82 years.

**Walter N. Mills**, a respected resident of Plainview, now living retired, is a worthy representative of an old pioneer family of Wabasha County, and has himself taken an active part in its development. His activities have been along agricultural lines and connected industries, and he was the pioneer truck farmer in this township, if not in the county. He was born in Plainview Township, April 29, 1863, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Mills) Mills, and acquired his education in the school at Brown's Corners. He grew to manhood on his parents' farm, where he acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture. After remaining there until a few years after attaining his majority, he bought eight acres of land, to which he later added four acres, making a twelve-acre tract, and began the operating of a truck farm, which he carried on for eight years. He then went to Texas, where he bought 40 acres of land and started improvements, but after living there for six months he concluded that the North was a better field of enterprise for him, and returned to Plainview, where he rented a place for two years. He then bought his present residence property in the village, and later bought out the heirs of his parents' farm, which place he now owns. In 1911, together with M. J. Manchester, Mr. Mills purchased 160 acres near Eyota, in Olmsted County, which property they later divided, Mr. Mills taking 80 acres. This tract he later exchanged for a house and three lots in the village, from the development of which property he reaped good returns. For the last 13 years he has been actively interested in a number of local enterprises. For three years he was manager of the Plainview Canning factory, and he has also bought and shipped considerable produce. It is now 35 years since Mr. Mills first engaged in truck gardening on the old home farm, and his onion house was the first one built on Greenwood Prairie. In 1911, together with M. J. Manchester and Charles Posz, he built the cold storage plant now conducted by Mr. Posz, he superintending its construction. Mr. Mills invented the first onion crates used in the county for storing onions. Thus it will be seen that he has been a live wire in the community, especially in those lines of industry that are intimately connected with its general prosperity, and his own reward has been generous, as he is today one of the well to do and highly respected citizens of the village. He is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Mills was married September 23, 1894, to Rilla Orcutt, who was born in Little Valley, Olmsted County, Minn., August 12, 1869. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Eva, born August 21, 1895, now Mrs. Floyd Cowles, of Plainview Township; and Grace, born April 25, 1898, who married Arthur Wedge of Plainview, and has one child, Edward, born November 16, 1919. Mr. Mills and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Lemuel J. Orcutt**, a Civil War veteran and retired farmer, who for 21 years has been a resident of Plainview Village, was born in Perry, Wyoming County, N. Y., February 2, 1840. He grew to manhood in his native state, and on September 13, 1862, enlisted for service in the Federal army. He took part in the bloody battles of Gettysburg and Spottsylvania, and was honorably discharged June 12, 1865, after a service of two years and nine months. In April, 1866, he came to Minnesota, locating first in Fillmore County, but after staying a few weeks there, he came, on May 12, to Wabasha. Here also his stay was short, for the records of Olmsted County record his marriage there, September 3, 1866, to Mrs. Eliza Bradley, nee Eliza Coats, and widow of Richard Bradley. Mr. Orcutt then took a farm in Olmsted County, which he operated successfully for 32 years, retiring and moving to Plainview in 1899. Here he has since resided, a well known and respected citizen. For over nine years he has been a widower, his faithful wife, Eliza, having passed away December 27, 1910. They had two children: Rilla, now Mrs. Walter N. Mills of Plainview, and George,





MR. AND MRS. WALTER N. MILLS







who is a resident of Hoquiam, Wash. Mrs. Eliza Orcutt, wife of L. J. Orcutt, whose maiden name, as above mentioned, was Eliza Coats, was born in the famous manufacturing town of Sheffield, England, April 12, 1826. In 1847, at the age of 21 years, she was married to Richard Bradley, of Sheffield, and in 1851 they came to America, settling in Canada, whence, about 1860, they moved to Little Valley, Olmsted County, Minn. Five years later, in 1865, Mr. Bradley died and was buried in Little Valley. There were born of this union eleven children, five of whom died young. With the surviving six Mrs. Bradley struggled along with difficulty, it often being the case that there was nothing in the house to eat but a little corn bread, and it was doubtless with a lightened heart that in the following year she gave her hand to the stalwart young farmer and veteran soldier, L. J. Orcutt, whose strong arm provided for the family and kept the wolf from the door. She also did her part. Always industrious, a great lover of home and family, a kind mother and a good neighbor, she was loved and respected, and the tears shed at her demise were sincere tributes to the place she had gained in the hearts of her friends. Her remains were laid to rest beside those of her first husband in the Little Valley cemetery. Her children by Mr. Orcutt have been mentioned. The six children now living by her union with Richard Bradley are: Mrs. Sarah Pages of Mosier, Ore.; William Bradley of Taylor, Wis.; Tom Bradley of St. Charles, Minn.; Mrs. Lizzie Peterson of Nashua, Ia.; John Bradley of Plainview, Minn., and Richard Bradley of Hoquiam, Wash. For twelve years previous to her death, Mrs. Orcutt had resided with her husband in Plainview, with the exception of a short time spent in Texas. She was a remarkably well preserved woman for her age, and passed away after an illness of but a few days.

**John A. Mills**, one of the old-time settlers of Plainview, who was called to his final rest March 8, 1905, was born at Troy, N. Y., April 3, 1855. In the same year he was brought by his parents to Geneva, Wis., and in 1856 from there to Wabasha, Minn. Soon after their arrival in Wabasha, or in the same year, the family moved to the homestead south of Plainview, where he resided until August 1, 1904, on which date he moved to the village of Plainview. The year previous he had erected a comfortable home on his property in the northern part of town, where he and his aged mother might enjoy the comforts of life together for the remainder of their days, little thinking that he would be the first to go. Here he continued to reside until his death. He had always followed the occupation of farming, and for the last ten years of his life had been extensively engaged in truck farming, in which branch of industry he had been one of the pioneers in this vicinity, and by hard and steady work had achieved success. Mr. Mills had a strongly sympathetic nature and was noted for his geniality. As a man and as a citizen, and in every relation of life, honesty and rectitude governed his conduct, and he was universally beloved for his many virtues and hearty good fellowship. He left his aged mother, three brothers and a sister to mourn his loss: Mrs. Elizabeth Mills, Walter N. Mills, Reed A. Mills and Elizabeth (Mrs. Lorenzo Underwood) of Plainview, and W. A. Mills of Dodge Center, Minn.

**Fred Denzer**, who for 23 years was engaged in agriculture in Plainview Township, but is now retired, was born in Ohio, and on growing to manhood married Mary Hostetter, a native of Switzerland. In 1866 they settled on land in Whitewater Township, Winona County, and engaged in farming, remaining there until 1896. They then moved to Woodland, in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, where they are still living, Mr. Denzer having continued active until 1919. On December 4, 1916, he and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, a large number of friends being present on the happy occasion. They have been the parents of four children: Christian, a resident of Plainview; Albert, a farmer in Winona County; Minnie, deceased; and Ervin, who is residing at home.

**Christian Denzer**, for several years a breeder of Black Poll Angus cattle, but now living retired in Plainview, was born in Whitewater Township, Winona



County, April 19, 1869, son of Fred and Mary (Hostetter) Denzer. He was educated in the common schools and grew to manhood on his parents' farm, working for them until he was 27 years old. He then purchased the home farm in Whitewater Township, Winona County, and for 13 years was engaged in its operation. At the end of that time he sold it and came to Plainview Township, Wabasha County, for two years thereafter operating a rented farm. After that he bought a farm in Whitewater Township, on which he remained until the fall of 1916, when he sold the farm and retired to Plainview, purchasing a home on High street. During the summer he follows carpenter work. While in Whitewater he took an active part in the agricultural development of his township, and as a progressive stock raiser made a high reputation, keeping a fine herd of Black Poll Angus cattle, with a full-blooded sire. He served his town six years on the board of supervisors, and for several years was on the school board. Mr. Denzer was married March 10, 1897, to Matilda Zenk, who was born in Whitewater Township, Winona County, Minn., October 18, 1879, daughter of Charles and Anna (Strehlein) Zenk. Her father was a native of Germany and her mother of Michigan. They followed general farming in Whitewater Township for a number of years until retiring to Altura, where both died, the father in 1915 and the mother in 1914. They had nine children: Louise, Barbara, Matilda, George, Carrie, Dora, Adella, Mary and Anna, of whom the two last mentioned are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Denzer have been born two children: Luella Caroline, August 23, 1902, now a student in the Plainview high school; and Orrin Charles, November 25, 1906, who is in the eighth grade of the common school. The family is identified religiously with the Congregational church, and are people of good standing in the community, well known and respected.

**Henry E. Binder**, a well known business man of Plainview, which village he is now serving as mayor, was born in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, November 2, 1876, son of August and Julia (Wagner) Binder. The parents, who settled in this county 50 years ago, followed farming for a while in Elgin Township, and then removed to Highland Township, where they bought a farm and were engaged in agriculture until about 1907. In that year they retired and took up their residence in Plainview, where August Binder is still living. His wife died in September, 1910. Henry E. Binder, who was educated in the district and public schools, remained at home until reaching the age of 23 years. He then entered the mercantile store of F. J. Cornwall & Co. as clerk, and has since been closely identified with the business, at the present time being cashier, bookkeeper and assistant manager, entrusted with the general buying. This position he has attained by good head work and close application to his duties, and has gained experience which places him among the efficient and practical business men of the village. As such his services have been called into requisition in public affairs. In 1914 he became a member of the village council, and being subsequently elected mayor, took office in 1919. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church. On March 29, 1906, Mr. Binder was united in marriage with Clara Kitzman, of Farmington, Olmsted County, Minn., and who was born August 5, 1883. Their home circle has been enlarged and brightened by the birth of three children: Velva F., born September 24, 1907; Lucille, November 28, 1910, and Maxine A., January 15, 1912.

**Felix Har**, an early settler in Plainview Township, was a man who, through energy and perseverance, achieved success in spite of serious initial misfortunes and discouragements which might have broken the spirit of a man of weaker fibre. He was a native of Germany who came to America when young, and who was married in this country to Katie Marnach. After their marriage they settled on a claim in East Indian Creek valley, this county, and by dint of arduous toil early and late, within a few years Mr. Har, with his wife's assistance, had made numerous improvements. Future prospects looked rosy, when all at once a stroke of misfortune descended upon them, as everything on their









MR. AND MRS. JOHN W. HAR



farm—their barns, hay and stock—except their little house, was destroyed by fire. During the following winter they lived in the house, planning how to make a new start, but Mr. Har had hardly commenced work in the spring when he received a letter from a lawyer in Rochester, informing him that he would have to vacate his land, as it was legally the property of the railroad company. Upon investigation the fact was verified, and he and his family quit their claim, with its little shanty, and sought shelter elsewhere, perhaps congratulating themselves that, owing to the fire, they were not leaving much behind. For awhile Mr. Har worked for a firm by the name of Timmerson & Schwartz, grain dealers at Minneiska, saving what he could of his wages in order to get the wherewithal for a new start in life. In 1864 he bought, in company with his brother-in-law, Nick Marnach, a farm of 160 acres in Plainview Township. This they later divided, each taking 80 acres, and Mr. Har again began the task of home building. In time he enlarged the area of the farm to 117½ acres, and erected a good set of buildings, residing on the place until his later years, when he sold it to his widowed daughter, Mrs. August Steinke, who now lives there, and went to live with a son in Winona, his wife having passed away in 1887. With the son mentioned and his family he moved to Marshalltown, Iowa, where his death occurred in October, 1906.

**John W. Har**, a leading contractor and builder of Plainview, was born in Plainview Township, December 9, 1866, son of Felix and Katie (Marnach) Har. He acquired his education in the rural schools in the vicinity of his parents' farm and at the Wabasha public school, where he was a pupil for one year. Until reaching the age of 21 years he remained an inmate of his parents' home. Then for two years he operated a part of the home farm on his own account, leading a bachelor's life on the place. In 1889 Mr. Har went to Wheaton, Minn., where he engaged in the clothing business, and there and at Fargo he learned the builder's trade. In 1891 he sold his interests there and, returning to Plainview, launched out as a general contractor and builder. His entry into this line of industry was signalized by no flourish of trumpets, but was a modest beginning, he depending for success on honest and durable work, executed at a reasonable price. This policy brought its reward in a gradually increasing business based on the confidence of the public, and many of the substantial business blocks and fine residences of Plainview are his handiwork, as also many structures in the surrounding towns, villages and country. The comfortable residence he now occupies was erected by him in 1903. He also owns four acres of land, on which he raises produce for himself and family, selling the surplus. On July 18, 1892, Mr. Har was married to Annie Hart, who was born in Allamakee County, Iowa, August 1, 1864, daughter of Patrick and Jane (Tracy) Hart, who were natives respectively of Ireland and the United States, and who were married at Dubuque, Iowa. In 1856 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hart located on a farm in Allamakee County, and for many years were successfully engaged in its operation. There Mr. Hart died in 1902, and in the following year Mrs. Hart came to Plainview, where she is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. John W. Har three children have been born: Walter Leo, August 5, 1893; Cecelia J., May 14, 1899; and William L., October 1, 1902. But two are now living, Walter Leo having died March 31, 1901. Cecelia J. is now Mrs. Lester Spring, of Rochester, and William L. is associated in business with his father. The family are members of the Catholic church, while in politics Mr. Har is a Republican.

**A. J. Fricke** was born February 22, 1864, at Plainview, Wabasha County, Minn. He is of German parentage. He has grown up with the town, and neither he nor the town have grown to be very large. From babyhood until about 12 years of age he was in very poor health; so was the town. Then they both began to get well and started to grow. The doctor said he could not live, as his head was too large, and the people said the town had no head at all; but leave that as you will, they both grew. He wears a 7⅛ hat at the present



writing, and the town is estimated at 1,500 population; so both have survived. His boyhood days were spent in going to school, fishing, and wishing he had a gun. He has stood and watched the countless thousands of pigeons fly over this place, and driven the prairie chicken from her nest on the ground now called Posz Addition, and the spot where John Keough resides was a great promenade for them in the spring. He has seen ducks shot on what was called Silver Lake; now the grand stand and ball park occupy the same lake bed. He has carried wheat bundles together for A. J. Foster on the ground where William Lyons and Dr. Smith reside. He has seen them wash sheep and baptize people in the same swimming-hole at the Whitewater on the same Sunday. He has seen 25 to 40 games of chuck-your-luck and poker going on in Plainview right back of the old post office building on a Sunday afternoon. Plainview was wide open in those days, but not disorderly. The boys were all lumberjacks and spent their money for the things they wanted. Wages were \$3 to \$3.50 or \$4.50 a day in harvest, but not for six or eight hours work. He has watched the crooked politician for 40 years or more, and there is little change in their methods; the only thing that he can see is that they keep within the law. He was a great lover of the National pastime and played for many years on the home team. He can remember the first game of ball he ever witnessed, and most of the players, 47 years ago or better. They were Charles Donaldson, Sr., Jerry Baldwin, Sell Washburn, Theo. Washburn, George Smith, Frank Halleck, George Fuller, and one more whom he cannot remember. The ball park was where Adolph Stoltz now resides. Their uniforms were red flannel pants and white or grey shirts. He cannot remember as to the caps. The next team was: Lon Pomeroy, catcher; Ernie Eddy and Charles Hardy, pitchers; George Purvis, first base; F. Wilson, shortstop; J. Cline, second base; H. Thurston, third base; George Huntley, left field; A. Maxwell, center field; John Vincent (colored), right field. It is sad to look back and wonder where the old bunch have gone—Leo Redding, Charles and Bert Potter, Newton Groves, Albert Reifkugel, Grant Norton, William Gien. Some of them have joined the "big top," and perhaps the rest are playing one-night stands; we cannot tell. But, God bless them, wherever they are. Oh, for a reunion of the old bunch, just one more sociable at the old schoolhall. But not for us; it has passed for all time, and we can only see it in fancy. In politics Mr. Fricke is and has been a Democrat, casting his first vote for Grover Cleveland. He was married, February 22, 1890, to Jennie Dufield of Plainview. To them were born three children: John, Jessie and Florence. John is now an electrician at Rochester; Jessie a teacher at Jefferson, Minn., and Florence still at home.

**Julius L. Fricke** was born September 21, 1829, in the province of Hanover, Germany, near Hamburg. In 1852 he emigrated to America, landing at New York, where he engaged in the trunk and bag business, working for John A. Ketrick, Factory at No. 9 Thomas street, office corner of Wall and Broadway. On October 5, 1853, he was married to Annetta Tebbens. He continued to follow his trade in New York until the fall of 1857, when he and his family, consisting of his wife and two children, came to Wabasha, Minn., landing there October 28, 1857, from the steamboat Northern Light. With his savings, consisting of gold coin—the amount does not matter—he purchased a lot in what is now known as South Wabasha, erected a small house with boards running up and down, and battens to cover the cracks, and in this he prepared to pass the winter of 1857-8. Leaving his wife and children, he walked to Danlect, Wis., where he was employed by Willson & Tainter, lumbermen. Returning in the spring of 1858 to Wabasha, he worked at paper-hanging and upholstering, opening a small shop on Pembroke street, on the spot or very near to the site of the telephone exchange. There was little work and no money and times were very hard, but I have often heard him say that he was very poor but did not know it. He continued by saying we were all poor in South Wabasha, but we managed to get along. Then came the half-breed script, and he was com-









MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL L. JENKS



pelled to give up all his possessions, meager as they were, to General Sharpe, as he was called at that time. But through the influence of Mr. Oliver Cratte (God bless his memory), Sharpe consented to let the "Dutchman" stay if he would make him a fine riding-bridle and quilt his English riding-saddle with buckskin. This Mr. Fricke consented to do and thereby received title to his home. Mr. Fricke has often told me that Mr. Cratte was the best man that he ever came in contact with. In the spring of 1860 Mr. Fricke and family came to Plainview, landing here with everything on one wagon (owned and driven by Peter Nelson, another of God's good men). He and his family arrived in Plainview, June 28, 1860. It was raining, and the mud was as bad and sticky as it is this day (November 10, 1919). But nothing in the way of pioneer life could stop the people in those days. They turned out with the Golden Rule ever before them, and thanks to the kindness of the dear old mothers of those days, Plainview gradually became a settlement, and then a town. Everyone was happy and poor. One of the things long to be remembered and never forgotten was the sure sign of spring directly in front of Mr. Fricke's harness shop, and exactly in the center of the village. This was a spot of earth that would dry out sooner than any other part of the street. Just as soon as the spot bore evidence of dry dirt, one could look out and see a crowd of men standing around it—George R. Hall, William S. Baxter, big Charles Sargent, Hollis Hall, James Butts, High Butts, William N. Y. Robinson, Dan Sweeze, William Hardy, John Bingham, and many more. First on the program—jumping, then wrestling, and as the dry spot widened, pitching horse shoes; then foot races, 100 yards; and I wish to state that it took a very good man to put George Hall on his back, out-jump Hollis Hall, or defeat William Hardy at the horse-shoe game. The crowd of interested spectators was very enthusiastic, and, as for number, everyone was there except the women. They were busy looking after their youngsters, for in those days mothers had to make their shirts and pants out of Dad's old ones, and we kept the dear old hands busy patching, darning and washing. Mr. Fricke was a man who had very little chance to attend school outside of the regular Lutheran teaching preceding confirmation; but while in New York he did attend Cooper's Institute at night, walking five miles to do so. He mastered the English language, as we called it, in reading and writing; then, as he advanced in that, he subscribed for magazines and papers. Books were purchased freely, if they suited, but never novels or stories. He never forsook his native language, as he was a constant reader of the New York Statz Zeitung for over 40 years; and the Illustrated World, printed in Stuttgart, Germany, was a regular caller. English papers and magazines—the St. Paul Globe, Chicago Record, Inter-Ocean, Scribner's, Harper's, Wabasha County papers, also Plainview News. In politics he was a Democrat, but he did admire James G. Blaine, and I think he voted for him, but I cannot say for sure. He also admired Judge Thomas Willson and was a personal friend of his. He often took an active part in the county campaigns. Seven children were born to this home: Augusta, New York City, 1855; Minnie, New York, 1857; Anna, Wabasha, Minn., 1859; Julius, Jr., Plainview; George, Plainview; Alfred J., 1864; Orlena, 1869. George, Julius, Jr., and Orlena have passed to the Great Beyond, George and Julius, Jr., in 1862, Orlena in 1887. Mr. Fricke passed away January 29, 1903, Mrs. Fricke November 12, 1903. Both are buried in Greenwood Cemetery on the family lot, marked with a plain but very substantial granite monument. Thus the law of nature has been fulfilled, and removed from this community two people long associated with the pioneer days of Wabasha County. (By A. J. Fricke.)

**Samuel Levant Jenks**, better known as "Captain Jenks," whose life in Plainview extended over a period of ten years, from 1890 to the year of his death, 1900, was a man whose personality left a strong impress on the community which subsequent time has not been able to obliterate. He was born in Genesee County, N. Y., in 1836, and in 1840 removed with his parents to Pennsyl-



vania, and thence to Walworth County, Wis., where he grew to manhood and acquired his education. In 1864 he came to Winona, Minn., and in the spring of 1865 located on a tract of 80 acres in Quincy Township, Olmsted County. The land was all wild and Mr. Jenks was confronted by the problem, so familiar to the pioneer, of developing it into a paying farm—a problem that could only be attacked in the spirit of conquest and determination, backed by iron muscles and inexhaustible patience. In such a spirit, and with such resources to back him, Mr. Jenks attacked it, and in the end was conqueror. Though the fight with nature was long, the end was never doubtful, provided life were spared. Step by step he progressed, grubbing and breaking the land and erecting buildings, and, not satisfied with his original 80 acres, he enlarged his task by the purchase of additional tracts until his farm had an area of 280 acres. A large part of his attention was devoted to stock raising and buying, and of all kinds of stock he was an expert judge, his reputation extending for many miles around. Moreover, his honesty was on a par with his knowledge and experience, and no one ever had cause to say that he had been cheated in a stock transaction or business deal by Mr. Jenks. He stuck close to the Golden Rule, and men had confidence in him. They believed what he told them in all matters of trade, and knew they could afford to do so. He paid a fair price for what he bought, and when he sold the buyer knew that he was receiving full value for his money. In 1890 Mr. Jenks moved to Plainview, and, purchasing lots on Jefferson street, erected a fine house for his personal residence. Here he continued in the business of stock buying, being associated therein at different times with H. K. Knowlton and George A. Hollenbech. He also served as a member of the town board and school board, and as constable. His rugged honesty and genial disposition made him friends everywhere, and every boy on the street saluted him familiarly as "Capt. Jenks." For ten years he was one of the honored citizens of Plainview, and then, on November 8, 1900, came the final summons, and his family and friends gazed for the last time on the face of him whom they loved. Mr. Jenks was married in 1860 to Alice A. Leach, who was born in 1837, and who survived him 17 years, passing away in April, 1917. They were the parents of three children: Marcus E. and Edith Marcia (twins), born November 17, 1861; and Vanie J. P., who died at the age of 14 years. Edith Marcia, who graduated from the Winona State Normal School, was for several years a school teacher, and later was employed as a typist in St. Paul and Minneapolis, being more than usually competent. Mr. Jenks was a member of the Masonic order, Illustrious Lodge No. 63.

**Marcus E. Jenks**, now living retired in the Village of Plainview, was born in Walworth County, Wisconsin, November 17, 1861, son of Samuel Levant and Alice A. (Leach) Jenks. In his boyhood he attended school in Little Valley, Olmsted County, Minn., and remained on the parental farm until he was 24 years old. Then for several years he was engaged in the livery business at Plainview. The rest of his active career was spent in general farming. He is now occupying the old Jenks home on Jefferson street, Plainview, which was built by his father, and a part of which he rents to a tenant. He is a member of Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., Plainview; the Commandery at Rochester (Home Commandery No. 5); Winona Consistory No. 4, and Osmund Temple, at St. Paul.

**George F. Duerre**, proprietor of a fine hardware store in Plainview, who has also rendered efficient service as a county official, was born at Read's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., May 16, 1865, son of Henry and Pauline (Lutz) Duerre. He acquired his literary education in the public school of his native village, and was subsequently a pupil for two years in a business college at Minneapolis. In 1892 he became a candidate for the office of county treasurer, and was elected for a term of two years. His service in that office giving general satisfaction, he was re-elected and filled out another term. Then in 1901 he came to Plainview and engaged in the hardware business, in which he has



since demonstrated his ability as a merchant. He has enlarged his store, and carries a complete and modern line of shelf and heavy hardware. He is a member of the Masonic order. Mr. Duerre was married in 1895 to Mabel Cassidy, daughter of William W. and Jane (Blair) Cassidy. He and his wife are the parents of six children: Paul, Donald, Lucy E., William George, Thomas Henry and Charles L. Paul, who married Nan Napier, is now a resident of Chicago. During the recent World War he trained five months at the Great Lakes station, and was 22 months on the battleship Nebraska, in the quartermaster's department. Donald, during the war, took a course in the student's training school at Hamline. Lucy E. is a student at Stout University, Menominie, Wis. William George is attending the Plainview public school.

**William Wilson Cassidy**, who passed from this life on Sunday, June 23, 1916, in his eighty-fourth year, was a well known pioneer lumberman who has been a resident of Wabasha County for 62 years, and had a legion of friends. He was born at Belfonte, Center County, Pa., March 27, 1833, son of John and Jane (Blair) Cassidy. When William was ten years old the family moved to Iowa and there he was reared on a farm and received his education in the common schools. At the age of 18 he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, which he followed two years. In 1854 he went to Menominie, Wis., and entered the employ of Knapp-Stout & Co., a large and well known lumber firm, for whom he worked two years at common labor in the woods or on the river. In 1857 he was placed at Read's Landing in charge of the company's lumber yards. On December 8 the same year he was married to Eliza Kyle, of Downsville, Dunn County, Wis. He brought his young bride to Read's Landing, where he built a nice home, and it was there that his five children were born, of whom the only one now living is Mabel, wife of George F. Duerre, of Plainview. After the abandonment of the river business Mr. Cassidy purchased a fine residence in Wabasha, on the brow of the hill on the west side, which he subsequently occupied until his death. He never sought public office, but served one term as county commissioner for his district. Politically he was a life-long Republican. He was eminently just in all his dealings. His long residence in this region and the nature of his business brought him into contact with business men throughout the entire lumbering world, and probably no man was better known or had more friends than he. He was a conscientious christian, a loving husband, a kind father, and a true friend. His nature was cheerful, and though for several years he had been gradually failing in health, he was never known to complain. He is missed not only by his family, but by everyone who knew him.

**Charles A. Christian**, now engaged in the produce business in Plainview, was born in Illinois, October 14, 1864, son of James and Martha (Lea) Christian. The family came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1866, locating at Woodland in Plainview Township, where the parents were engaged in farming until the death of Mrs. Martha Christian on August 7, 1871. In the following year James Christian moved with his family to Wytoka Township in Winona County, where he followed farming until his death in 1894. C. A. Christian was brought up on the home farm, and was associated with his father in agricultural pursuits, finally becoming owner of the farm in Winona County. After operating it until 1899, he sold it and moved to Winona, where for six years he was employed in the Winona Wagon Works. During the next five years he worked in the boiler shops of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co. In 1914 he came to Plainview and engaged in the general retail feed business, building a good mill, and buying a house and lots. He conducted the feed business until 1917, since which time he has been engaged in produce buying, and is in the full tide of a successful business career. He is a member of Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Woodmen of the World. His religious affiliations are with the Christian church. Mr. Christian was married, December 27, 1899, to Ida



Wentworth, daughter of David and Julia (Miner) Wentworth, of Plainview, Minn., both of whom are now deceased.

David Wentworth, an early settler in Wabasha County, who did his part in the development of this section, was born at Sydenham Place, Canada, March 15, 1839. He came to Minnesota in 1860, and was married, at Winona, August 7, 1865, to Julia Miner. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Rice Lake, where they resided for four years, then came to Plainview and took a farm four miles east of town. There they made their home, with the exception of a few years spent away, until about 1910, when they purchased a residence in Plainview and moved to the village. Here Mr. Wentworth died September 30, 1915, his death being a shock to all, as he had been about the village up to the day previous. He had been warned by his physician of heart weakness, but had experienced little inconvenience from it until a slight extra exertion brought his life to an end. Mr. Wentworth was a man well known to all in the community and had many friends among the pioneers and early settlers. As a pioneer farmer in his youthful days, he had experienced the hardships common to all, but had surmounted all difficulties and accumulated a competence for his enjoyment in later years. His wife survived him several years, passing away June 25, 1919. She was 71 years old, having been born at Columbus, Columbia County, Wis., March 12, 1848. Mr. Wentworth was also survived by two brothers, Henry of Owatonna, and Chester of Nora Springs, Ia.; and by five children, Edgar, Roy, Ida (Mrs. C. A. Christian), Mrs. Hattie Bennett and Mrs. Florence Hellmich. Two other children died when quite young.

Frank Forest Smith, the proprietor of an extensive truck farming business, residing within the limits of the Village of Plainview, was born in St. Johns, Florida, October 7, 1854, son of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Smith. Left an orphan at the age of nine years, he came under the care of an uncle at Newark, N. J., with whom he remained until the fall of 1864. Then, with his brother Jack, he came west to Fort Anacombie, and was there from October until the following harvest. In 1865 he came to Plainview, Wabasha County, and from that time until 1881 he was engaged in farm labor and also as foreman in the lumber camps of Ingram & Kennedy, at Eau Claire, Wis. In 1881 Mr. Smith rented a farm in Plainview, which he operated for one year, subsequently removing to another farm near the county line, where he remained three years. After that for seven years he operated rented land. His next move was to purchase a farm of 220 acres in section 24, Plainview Township, of which he cleared up 65 acres, and made other improvements, building a good house and a set of out-buildings and planting an orchard. There he remained for seven years, at the end of which time he sold the place and engaged in truck farming on other land, where also he remained seven years. Then, about 1906, he bought his present place of 63 acres in Plainview, where he has built up a fine business as truck farmer, also keeping some Chester-White hogs, and Jersey and Durham cattle. He raises some general farm crops, including corn, clover and oats, but his principal crops are of the truck garden kind, such as cabbage, sugar beets, onions, potatoes, pop corn, sweet corn, squash and navy beans. In 1892 he shipped a carload of yellow onions out of Plainview, and has raised thousands of bushels each year since. He has also bought and sold for other parties on commission. His operations in general have been conducted with profitable results, but in one year he lost \$10,000, owing to a large amount of produce being suddenly dumped onto the market. So successful, however, has he been, on the whole, that he is widely recognized as an authority on truck gardening, and for several years has conducted a school, lecturing on the best methods of truck raising, and the most profitable crops to raise, and giving instructions to interested parties. His tours take him into southwestern Minnesota and South Dakota. Although now only in his sixty-sixth year, he can boast of a Civil War record, as he served in that war as captain's boy, with Captain Davis, of Company B, Thirty-second New Jersey regiment, and was at





FRANK F. SMITH AND FAMILY







Chattanooga, Murphreesboro, Atlanta and Little Rock, Ark. Mr. Smith was married, January 1, 1880, to Rosetta Mack, who was born in Elgin, Minn., August 11, 1859, daughter of Calvin and Melissa M. (Richer) Mack. Her mother died when she was three years old, and she was reared and educated in the home of Gen. S. L. McCarty, and previous to her marriage taught school four years in the Leatherman, Woodland and Brown's Corner districts. Her father died in the year 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Frank F. Smith have had nine children, namely: Carl, born March 28, 1883; Bertram, June 13, 1884; Ward, September 12, 1886; Errol, December 24, 1889; Vernon G., February 15, 1892; Leslie, July 2, 1893; Paul, July 21, 1895; Ella, May 30, 1899, and Clara M., May 2, 1902. Carl is now a representative farmer of Cass County, Minn. He married Laura Wood. Bertram, who is a carpenter and contractor of Aberdeen, S. D., married Inda Jenner and has one child. Ward, who is a contractor at Pekin, Wis., married Lulu Olson, and has three children, Ralph, Lucilla and Arbella. Errol, now an electrician at Creston, Iowa, married Rose Russell. Vernon G. is a tractor engineer at Medicine Bow, Wyo., where he owns land. Leslie and Paul are residing at home and associated with their father. Paul had a part in the World War, serving one year in France. Ella is now a talented musician. Clara M. died at the age of ten years, June 20, 1912. Mr. Smith and his family are members of the Congregational church. Both he and his wife belong to the Old Settlers' Association and the Rebekah lodge, and he is also a member of the order of Modern Woodmen of America.

**Harvey Seymour** was one of the hardy pioneers of Wabasha County the memory of whose life is well worthy of preservation. He was born in Chenango County, N. Y., May 17, 1818, son of Samuel and Hanna (Ostrander) Seymour, the parents being proprietors of a small farm. His education was very limited, but he learned to read from the family newspaper, which was somewhat of a luxury in those days, and attended school two or three winters, his brother being the teacher. In 1840, at the age of 22, he came west to Whitewater, Walworth County, Wis., and was there married in 1845 to Delilah, daughter of Joseph and Phoebe (Harford) Nichols, of that place. She was born in Indiana, November 8, 1824, and was of Holland Dutch ancestry, while the Seymours were of old New England stock. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour resided at Whitewater until May, 1857, and then came to Lake City, Wabasha County, Minn. In the fall of that year Mr. Seymour bought for \$200 of Lorenzo Mills a 160-acre claim on section 17, Mt. Pleasant Township, of which tract a few acres had been broken. On it he built a small log house into which he and his wife's family moved in the spring of 1858. They were practically without capital and the work of developing a good farm was the task of years but they attacked the problem with stout hearts and willing hands, though Mr. Seymour was handicapped by having been a partial cripple from the age of four years. He had, however, an indomitable will and was always at work, and in time his ambition was realized in the creation of a profitable farm with a good set of buildings, where he carried on general agriculture, though for years before his death he was further handicapped by rheumatism. A natural mechanic, in early days he made with his own hands the farm tools he needed. He was the first man, or one of the first men, in the community to own a reaper, which was a very crude machine, and also owned the first threshing outfit. He had very progressive ideas, so much so that he was sometimes thought to be eccentric or peculiar, as he prophesied to his family and neighbors that some day a practical flying machine would be invented. Though not a church member, he donated liberally to both the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian churches in or near his community and was noted for his generosity, which amounted to a fault, as it kept him from acquiring riches. During his early years on the farm he passed through times of trial, due to chinch bugs, drouth and tornadoes, but they all failed to destroy his hope or relax his energy. He was a man held in high esteem, and his death on December 4, 1901, was felt as a blow to the en-



tire community. His wife had passed away December 24, 1894, and for nearly seven years he had been a widower. Their children were as follows: Emma, born at Whitewater, Wis., who died May 13, 1913; Alfred, born at Whitewater, Wis., October 24, 1854; Edgar, born in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, now living at Cumberland, Wis.; Lydia, born July 4, 1861, who is residing with her brother Alfred in Lake City; Minnie and Joseph, who died within a year after their birth. The only one of the children to marry has been the son Alfred. Harvey Seymour was a Republican in politics and for a number of years rendered public service in local office. He held the office of town assessor and was clerk of the school board and its treasurer for over 30 years.

**Alfred Seymour**, a well known and respected resident of Lake City, formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits, was born in Whitewater, Wis., October 24, 1854, son of Harvey and Delilah (Harford) Seymour. He was two and a half years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, of which they were pioneers. On their farm in Mt. Pleasant Township he grew to manhood and as a boy attended the district school until the age of fifteen. Until 1876 he worked on the home farm and then started in for himself, buying the Charles Mills farm of 160 acres across the road. About 100 acres of the land had been broken, and there was a small frame house and some straw sheds for barns. Mr. Seymour set to work to improve the place, erected a substantial set of buildings, and carried on general farming there until the fall of 1890. He then sold the property and moved to Lake City, where he bought a residence in which he is now living. A Republican in politics, he served as township assessor, school treasurer, and in other offices for years. Mr. Seymour was married June 17, 1884, to Emma L., daughter of William and Jane (Beatty) Wills, of Mt. Pleasant Township. She died at Lake City, October 21, 1917, leaving no children, and since then Mr. Seymour's sister Lydia has kept house for him. He works occasionally at manual occupation, but for the most part is leading practically a quiet and retired life. He supports and attends the Congregational church.

**F. J. Cornwell**, for many years an important factor in the industrial development of southern Wabasha County, as the leading drygoods and general merchant of Plainview, was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1836, and there spent his early boyhood. At the age of thirteen he was left an orphan but with undaunted courage he took up the stern duties of life and set out to make his own living. For five years he clerked in the store of a brother-in-law, in Burk County, in his native state, and then returned to the town of his birth where he was similarly employed. With this experience in the mercantile line, he came west in 1856, and was successively employed as a clerk in Dodge County, Minn., Cordova, Ill., and Winona, Minnesota. In 1863 he entered the employ of J. Himsted at St. Charles. So thoroughly did he win the confidence of his employer that in 1865 he was given an interest in the business, and came to Plainview to open a branch store. The next year, Mr. Himsted sold out to John Taylor, and the firm continued as John Taylor & Co. In 1872, Mr. Cornwell sold out his interest to Mr. Taylor. His next employment was as an accountant for Ozias Wilcox. In 1875, while taking a vacation in the South, he was called home by Mr. Wilcox's illness. Mr. Wilcox died January 1, 1876, and on January 12 Mr. Cornwell reopened the business in the interests of the family. In June, 1876, he purchased the business and a little later moved to the brick building which had recently been erected by A. Y. Felton. This building, in 1881, he purchased. He died July 27, 1912.

**Ephraim Clough**, the pioneer, was born in Chardon, Ohio, February 17, 1821, son of Jari and Eunice (Grey) Clough. He was married December 10, 1844, to Elizabeth Dunbar, and they moved at once to Black Swamp, Ohio. But the "fever and ague" drove them back to Chardon, where they remained for several years longer. In the fall of 1863 they came to Plainview, and the next spring bought from E. B. Eddy a farm northwest of Plainview Village. In the









D. D. CLOUGH



fall of 1895 they moved to Garden City, Minn., and took up their home with their youngest son, Merton. The wife and mother died the same fall. In 1904 Mr. Clough went to Mankato with the son, Merton, and lived there until 1908, when the family moved back to Garden City. Mr. Clough was taken ill on his eighty-eighth birthday, and died in October, 1910, at the age of 88 years and 8 months. He was buried at Garden City. Thus briefly is told the life story of a noble man, whose life was filled with interesting incidents. Born in Ohio, amid pioneer conditions, he grew to sturdy manhood, and there acquired those staunch characteristics that were his predominating characteristics. Coming to Minnesota just when the Civil War was raging, he took his part in the growth and progress of Greenwood Prairie, and developed a large and excellent farm. He was a member of the Christian (Disciple) church from early youth, and was a truly good and useful man in every way. Elizabeth Dunbar Clough was the daughter of Daniel and Clarissa (Brown) Dunbar, the former born September 27, 1784, and the latter born June 19, 1795. Mr. and Mrs. Clough had three children: Daniel Dunbar Clough, Ellen A. Clough and Merton Maynard Clough. Daniel D. Clough married Sophia Riefkogel, October 16, 1876. Ellen A. Clough married Henry Horten in 1877 and has one son, Royal E., born September, 1878, and now in the grocery business in Haver, Mont. Merton M. Clough was married June 6, 1888, in Benson, Minn., to Mary F. Utter, and they have three children: Lois Irene, Emily Eunice and Maynard Fillmore. Lois Irene was born March 21, 1889, and is in the employ of the Government at Washington. Emily Eunice was born Dec. 11, 1891, and was married June 24, 1913, to William Chester Cullen, of St. James, Minn. They have one son, William Clough Cullen, born December 2, 1914. Maynard Fillmore Clough was born March 6, 1901, and works with his father on the farm at Grand Rapids, Minn.

**Daniel Dunbar Clough** was one of those sterling, substantial characters of solid worth, whose lives and characters had much to do with the shaping of Greenwood Prairie progress in the early days. He was loved, honored and respected by everyone, valued by his own generation, and looked up to by the younger ones. His great characteristic was a dignified cheerfulness. Rich in all of those things which count for true worth, he was an exemplary citizen, a true Christian, and a man of great charity. He never sought honor or position, but he did seek the opportunity for the widest service. His benevolence was broad, and in his death the Christian world lost a true friend. He joined the Christian church as a boy, he was one of the pioneers of the Plainview congregation, and he never wavered in his faith and work. In addition to the great good he did, he also attained for himself material prosperity. As a farmer he was most successful and built up a fine place, beautified with a pleasant home, where he and his family spent the happiest years of their life adding to the beauty of the surroundings, and accumulating a competency. Daniel Dunbar Clough was born in Chardon, Ohio, May 13, 1848, and was brought to Minnesota as a boy of fifteen. He spent his entire life on the farm in Elgin Township until 1909 when he moved to Plainview, where he lived until his death June 23, 1916. His church, his family, his farm, and the community, these were his four interests, and right loyally did he serve all. Interested in education he served for many years on the school board, he was trustee and elder of the church. His life was well spent and the community is the better for his having lived in it. Mr. Clough was married October 16, 1876, to Sophia Reifkogel, born July 4, 1856, at Charlestown, Mass., daughter of J. W. and Charlotte (Young) Reifkogel. Both Mr. Clough and his wife have been active in the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie.

**August Stephan**, formerly a prosperous farmer of Farmington Township, Olmsted County, but now deceased, was born at Netztal, in the province of Posen, Germany. He was married in his native land to Caroline Tetzlaff, and resided there until 1851, when, leaving his family behind, he sailed for America



with the purpose of founding a new home. His search led him to Marquette County, Wisconsin, where he was joined in the following year by his wife and their daughter Augusta, a son, Julius, having died on the passage across the ocean. After farming in Marquette County until 1863, Mr. Stephan and his family came to Minnesota, locating in Olmsted County, where he bought a farm of 80 acres, which he subsequently enlarged to 240 acres by additional purchases of land. Later he bought a 400-acre farm in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, which he operated successfully until 1880. He then turned over 200 acres to his son August G., and eight years later he turned over the other 200 acres to another son, Albert T. He remained on the Olmsted County farm until his retirement in 1892, when he took up his residence in Rochester, Minn., where he died in 1895. His wife survived him a number of years, passing away in June, 1913. They had in all a family of ten children: Julius, previously mentioned as deceased; Augusta, who is also now deceased; August G., Ottillie, Bertha, Tina, Albert, John, Emma and Minnie.

**August G. Stephan**, a retired farmer residing in Plainview, of which place he is a well known and highly esteemed citizen, was born in Marquette County, Wisconsin, July 28, 1856, son of August and Caroline (Tetzlaff) Stephan. His parents being farmers, he was early trained to agriculture, his education being acquired in the district schools of Olmsted County, Minnesota, after the family's removal thither. After remaining at home until he was 23 years old, he bought of his father a 200-acre farm in sections 16 and 17, Elgin Township, onto which he moved in the spring of 1880, and began improvements, erecting a fine set of buildings. In 1895 he built a new and modern house of eight rooms, with basement, bath and other conveniences. There he farmed until 1906, following diversified agriculture, and keeping good sires at the head of his stock. Having by the year last mentioned accumulated a competency, he left the farm and moved into his new home that he had built in 1905 on Jefferson street, Plainview, where he is still residing. But although retired from the farm, he still followed farm labor of various kinds and every fall conducted a threshing outfit until the fall of 1919, when he retired permanently. At various times and for various periods Mr. Stephan has rendered efficient service in public office. He was school treasurer of District No. 56 for 16 years, was supervisor several years, and served several years as chairman of the Elgin town board. For many years he was trustee of the Lutheran church at Potsdam, and he has been trustee for several years of the Lutheran church in Plainview, to which he and his wife belong. They spent the winter of 1917 in California. Mr. Stephan was married, December 3, 1879, to Ottilie E. Benike, who was born in Marquette County, Wisconsin, August 16, 1860, daughter of Gustave and Pauline (Stesey) Benike. Her parents, like his own, were natives of the province of Posen, Germany, the father coming to America at the age of 15 years. The mother came later, and they were married in Marquette County, where they remained until 1864, when they came to Olmsted County, Minnesota. There they bought a farm and were engaged in agriculture until 1901, when they retired to Elgin, Wabasha County, where Mr. Benike is still living. Mrs. Benike died November 25, 1910. Their children were Ottillie, Albert, William, Bertha, Emil, Clara, Edward, Louise and Clara (second). Both Claras are deceased, as also is Edward. Mr. and Mrs. August G. Stephan have had two children: Theodore and Verene O. Theodore, who was born in 1881, died in 1906. He married Ida Rux. Verene O., born October 5, 1884, married the Rev. Edward O. Smith and they reside in California. They have had four children, Ernest R., Stephan R., Mary L. and Eugene E., of whom Mary L. is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. August G. Stephan have a wide acquaintance in Plainview and the vicinity and are socially popular.

**Elmer J. Thurman**, manager of the Watertown Canning Company, of Plainview, was born at St. Louis, Mo., April 25, 1889, son of Richard and Helen (Siebert) Thurman. The father, Richard, died when the subject of this sketch









MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM KOENIG



was a little child. He was survived by his wife, who is still living, making her home a part of the time with her son, Elmer J., at Plainview, and a part of the time at St. Louis. Elmer J. Thurman acquired his education in the public schools of St. Louis. Subsequently he engaged in agriculture on a farm of 191 acres in St. Genevieve County, Missouri, purchasing the property, which he still owns. At the age of 20 years, however, he left it to become fireman on the Missouri Pacific railroad, which occupation he followed for two years. While thus employed he became interested in the canning industry, and soon after became connected as chief mechanic with the Watertown company, at the time they built their plant at Watertown. In March, 1916, the company bought the old Plainview canning plant, and in August, that year, sent Mr. Thurman here to manage its affairs. This he has done so well and successfully that the Plainview plant is now one of the finest in the state. The company handles corn exclusively, which is grown on a rented tract of 600 acres, and which as put up for the market, is divided into five brands, named respectively, Watertown, Waterfall, Westroad, Richwood and Excellent. The company gives employment to a number of expert workmen, paying good wages, and every department of the business is conducted on a sanitary and scientific basis. Mr. Thurman is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge at Plainview, and has received the thirty-second degree in the order. He and his wife both belong to the Order of the Eastern Star. On June 17, 1916, Mr. Thurman was married to Helen S. Adsit, of Watertown, Wis., and they have one child, Robert A., who was born May 31, 1917. The Methodist Episcopal church numbers Mr. and Mrs. Thurman among its active and useful members.

**William Koenig**, now living retired in Plainview after a long and successful business career in which he won for himself a wide reputation as a man of ability, was born in the Province of Hessian Cassel, Germany, September 29, 1844, son of Balthaser and Margaret (Withrow) Koenig. After attending school in his native land, he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed until coming to the United States in the spring of 1863. Locating first in New York City, he followed his trade there until the fall, and then went to Hazelton, Penn., where he was engaged in the same occupation up to the spring of 1865. After that he spent some time in travel in New York State and Ohio, working at his trade in various places until he again reached New York City, and passed from there over into Brooklyn, where he was married, in June, 1867, to Margaret Young, a native of Bavaria, near the Rhine. With his bride he now started for the Northwest, taking the train to La Crosse, Wis., then a steamer up the Mississippi to Minneiska, Minn., and overland by team to Plainview, Wabasha County. Here he bought a shop, 14 by 20 feet in size, and engaged in boot and shoe manufacture. Later he added a retail line of shoes, buffalo overcoats and gloves, establishing a business that he conducted uninterruptedly for eight years, or until 1875. He then tried his fortunes in Winona in the same line of business, but after eleven months in that city returned to Plainview, and in June, 1876, engaged in general mercantile business here, buying the stock of A. G. Felton. The building he had already purchased from Mr. Felton in 1875. In this business Mr. Koenig continued for 16 years, building up a large trade, and he also extended his operations in other directions, engaging largely in the purchase and sale of land, of which he owned at one time close to 10,000 acres; and in 1883 buying the elevator at Plainview, which he conducted until 1892, when it was destroyed by fire, causing Mr. Koenig a loss of \$13,000, as there was no insurance. He had also up to that time, and since 1888, been engaged in diversified farming, having a farm of 335 acres within the city limits. The fire had the result of reducing his personal activities, as he gave up the farm, and turned over the store to his sons, William, Arthur and Albert, still, however, continuing his real estate operations until 1910, since which time he has been retired. In 1898 he built his present nice residence in the village. By his first wife, Margaret Young Koenig, he had seven



children, of whom five are now living: William, now a merchant at Sioux Falls, S. D.; Arthur, a resident of Chicago; Alfred, engaged in the real estate business at Sioux Falls; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Fred Booth, residing in California; Emma, now Mrs. Let Marshall, of Dell Rapids, S. D. The two deceased are an infant and a son named Henry. The mother of these children died in February, 1892; and on September 22, 1892, Mr. Koenig was married to Katherine Pletch, a native of Luxemburg. Two children are the issue of this marriage: George, who saw service in the World War, and is now engaged in farming; and Edward, who is attending school. In 1894 Mr. Koenig took a trip to Europe, and while there erected a fine tombstone to the memory of his departed father and mother. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church, and he is a man of high standing as a citizen.

Charles Posz, commission merchant, and one of the live forces in the business prosperity of Plainview, was born in Covington, Ky., August 18, 1871, son of Jacob and Katherine (Nuss) Posz. He was educated in the public schools of Lewiston, Minn., the Winona Business College, and at the Elmhurst College at Elmhurst, Ill. He was but eight years old when he settled in Lewiston with his parents, and after leaving college he engaged in the real estate and insurance business there, which he carried on very successfully until 1904. In that year he came to Plainview and opened a restaurant and ice cream parlor, which he conducted for two years. He then sold out and engaged in the commission and produce business, which line of industry he has since followed to such good effect that he is now the recognized leader in it in Plainview. From year to year he has enlarged the business both in volume and variety. His sales each season amount to over 500 car loads, and include for the most part, cabbages, onions and potatoes. He also handles seeds, plants and some poultry, his seed sales covering a large and increasing territory and approximating \$20,000 for the last season. It was he who originated the plan of shipping in the early cabbage plants, which has proved so beneficial to the cabbage grower. The Posz Produce and Storage Plant, of which he is the sole owner, is the largest in the village, if not in southern Minnesota, and is the result of his individual ability and enterprise. In addition to his large interests connected therewith, he is president of the Posz Motor Company, handling the Cleveland-Chandler and Dodge Bros. motor cars. In fact there are few new and important business projects undertaken in the village with which he is not connected, and his foresight, energy and experience are potent factors in ensuring their success. The Business Men's Club numbers him among its most useful members. He also belongs to a number of the more prominent fraternal societies, being a thirty-second degree Mason, and an Odd Fellow, Woodman, Yeoman, and Elk. Mr. Posz was married, May 7, 1895, to Tillie Schmutzler, who was born in Lewiston, Winona County, Minn., November 24, 1871. Of this union two daughters have been born: Florence H., April 5, 1896; and Helen L., October 9, 1900. Florence H., after graduating from the Plainview high school in the class of 1915, was a pupil for one year in Carlton College, at Northfield, Minn. She was later graduated from the Winona State Normal School, and is now a proficient teacher in the third grade of the Plainview public schools. Helen L., who was graduated from the Plainview high school in the class of 1918, is now a student in the Winona State Normal School. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Methodist Episcopal church.

Jacob Posz, for many years a well known citizen in southeastern Minnesota, especially in Winona County, was a substantial, genial man, of excellent standing in the community and of sterling worth. He was the friend of all, his private benefactions were many, and he died in the respect and honor of the community. Jacob Posz was born in Billingham, Rheinfalz, Bavaria, April 28, 1845. In 1869 he came to America and found his way to Winona, whither several relatives had preceded him. There he was married by the venerable Rev. Philip Von Rohr, to Katherine Nuss, who had come to America on the



same ship. From Winona they went to Covington, Ky., where Mr. Posz was employed for many years in the foundry and iron-working business. In 1879 he came to Lewiston, in Winona County, this state, and there engaged in business for the rest of his life. He died April 28, 1897. Mrs. Katherine Nuss Posz, who was born in 1847, died February 2, 1884. She was a faithful wife and loyal and understanding mother, and their home life was ideal. To her husband she bore eight children, Anna, Charles, Katherine, Millie, Al. D., Dora, Marie and Jacob. Anna, born March 30, 1870, is the wife of J. P. Linden. Charles, born in 1871, is in the produce business in Plainview. Katherine, born March 25, 1873, is the wife of Robert Simon, of Forest Grove, Ore. Millie is the wife of B. A. Shaver, of Salem, Ore. Al. D., born February 15, 1878, is in the produce business in Plainview. Dora, born November 6, 1880, is the wife of Michael Hoffman, of Lewiston, this state. Marie, born May 6, 1882, is the wife of Bert Sorenson, of Kasson, Minn. Jacob died in infancy. For his second wife Jacob Posz married Margaret Cartarins. She died in 1891. This union resulted in two children: Fred, born at Deer Creek, Minn., June 6, 1887, and Elizabeth, born in Winona, July 28, 1885.

**Albert Daniel Posz**, who is successfully engaged in the produce business in Plainview, as a member of the firm of H. J. O'Connell & Co., was born in Covington, Ky., February 15, 1878, son of Jacob and Katherine (Nuss) Posz. He was but an infant of one year when he was brought by his parents to Lewiston, Minn., where he subsequently attended the public schools. He began industrial life as fireman on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, being thus occupied for two years, during which time he resided at Huron, S. D. Then returning to Lewiston, he engaged in the meat business, which he followed there until 1907. In that year he went to Independence, Benton County, Ore., and was there associated in the meat business with his brother-in-law, J. P. Linden, until the following year, after which he followed the same business in Lewiston, Minn., until 1911. He then came to Plainview, where he was associated with his brother Charles in the produce business until the spring of 1912, and during the next two years he was in the same business for himself. In 1916 Mr. Posz became a partner in the firm of H. J. O'Connell & Co., produce merchants, and has so continued up to the present time. The firm does a very flourishing business in buying and shipping various kinds of produce to the amount of about 300 car loads a season. They also grow about 40 acres of produce themselves yearly, and are one of the many thriving houses of this kind in Plainview. Mr. Posz is a Royal Arch Mason, and belongs also to the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Yeomen. He was married, November 3, 1907, to Mary E. Gaylord, of Nebraska, who was born May 23, 1889. The children of this marriage are: Everett D., born January 20, 1911; Mary E., born October 25, 1912, and Dosey, born May 28, 1916. Mr. Posz and his family attend the Congregational church.

**August F. Johnson**, a prosperous business man of Plainview, formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits, was born in Whitewater Township, Winona County, March 25, 1889, son of Frank and Christina (Johnson) Johnson. The parents were natives of Sweden, who came to America when young, and settled in Whitewater Township, Winona County, Minn., where for a number of years they were engaged in farming. Later they moved to Plainview village, where the father still resides. The mother died April 17, 1911. August F. Johnson, who was his parents' only child, was educated in the district schools of Winona County. He grew to manhood on the parental farm, which in time he rented, conducting it on his own account for a year and a half. He then rented a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, for one year, and after that, in 1915, purchased a farm of 95½ acres in Plainview Township, section 4, where he farmed until the fall of 1919. Then selling his farm, he moved to the village of Plainview and purchased his present home, a handsome seven-room bungalow. He is now salesman for the Independent Co., selling silos and milking-



machines and Mitchell barn equipment, in which occupation he is meeting with encouraging success. Mr. Johnson was married, June 19, 1912, to Catherine Foley, who was born in Highland Township, this county, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Foley. She is a member of the Catholic church, and of the Royal Neighbors and the Daughters of Isabella. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson three children have been born: Arvid J., September 25, 1913; Madelyn E., October 31, 1914, and Ronald J., February 18, 1917.

**John B. Lyon**, who passed from this life at his home in Plainview, April 2, 1920, was in former years a prominent farmer and poultry raiser of Elgin and Oakwood Townships, and a widely known and honored citizen whose work was highly beneficial to the community in which he resided. He was born in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, May 16, 1875, son of William H. and Sarah (Batson) Lyon. Growing to manhood in his native township, he received his education in the country school and the Elgin school. Until attaining his majority he worked on his parents' farm, which he subsequently rented. Afterward he bought a part of it and built up a home, where he remained until on account of ill health he sold it in 1910 and moved to Plainview, where the rest of his life was spent. Of a quiet, retiring disposition, he was a great favorite among his companions. Having a natural love of all living things, he was well adapted to his chosen occupation, farming. He was a poultry fancier, and a competent judge of fowls, and developed many fine specimens, which attracted notice and admiration at various shows and fairs. He served as secretary of the local poultry association for a number of years, and in that capacity did much toward building up the poultry industry of this community. His services in this respect were of inestimable value, and his opinion on poultry matters was often sought. This county had been his home from boyhood, and he was personally known by a large majority of the people. He was honored and respected by all, being the soul of integrity, a kindly and mild-mannered man, an excellent neighbor and true friend. Of a hopeful disposition, during his twelve years of failing health he was never known to complain. Mr. Lyon was married, January 1, 1900, to Ida Klavetter, by whom he had three children: Frances S., born March 21, 1904, who died October 17, 1906; Ardell K., born July 11, 1909; and Ruth May, born September 6, 1915.

**Gardner A. Colby**, proprietor of a moving picture theatre and opera house in Plainview, was born in Plainview Township, January 27, 1873, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Colby. He was educated in the local schools and at a business college in Minneapolis, and for some years thereafter remained on his parents' farm, working for his father, at first by the month, and during the last year on a percentage. In 1898 he enlisted in the Fourteenth Regiment Band, as trombone player, and went with the organization to Chicago. After his return he was variously employed until 1909, in which year he entered into his present business, at first renting the theatre, but later buying it, as his enterprise has proved a success. The house is provided with an elevated floor, and has a capacity of 200. Mr. Colby takes pains to secure good attractions, and that his efforts are appreciated is shown by the large number of patrons with whom the place is a favorite resort. Mr. Colby is a member of the Masonic order and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He was married, December 9, 1899, to Helma R. Christopher, who was born in Plainview, Minn., May 6, 1878, daughter of Nels and Anna Christopher. Of this union there is one child, Ruth, who was born September 21, 1905. Mr. Colby and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Jonathan Colby**, who left behind him an honored memory as one of the hardy pioneers of southeast Minnesota, was born in Corinth, Orange County, Vermont, September 4, 1809. The first 46 years of his life were spent in his native state, and in 1831 he was there married to Malinda Pratt, who died in 1854. Of that union five children were born, of whom Mrs. John Q. Richardson is living. Mr. Colby continued his residence in Vermont for a year after the





JOHN B. LYON







death of his wife, and then he and his son, L. D. Colby, joined the throng of gold seekers on the way to California, where for two years they were engaged in mining. They then returned to Vermont, remained there a year, and in 1858 came to Minnesota, stopping at Elgin until the following spring. Jonathan Colby then took a claim in Whitewater Township, Winona County—the farm later owned by David McCarty—but three years later moved to a farm a few miles southeast of Plainview, in Plainview Township, Wabasha County. In 1859 he married his second wife, Azubah Melendy, and until 1897, a period of 37 years, was actively engaged in looking after his farm, being recognized as a practical and successful agriculturist, and an excellent man and citizen. His health finally began to fail, and for a year before his death he was obliged to leave business affairs to the care of his wife. On January 16, 1898, he passed away, deeply mourned by his family, friends and fellow citizens. Before leaving his native state he had connected himself with the Freewill Baptist church, and had remained faithful to its teachings. He was a man of good principle, good business judgment, and had bettered the world by his having lived.

**Loyal Dyke Colby**, pioneer, farmer, and educator, was one of those substantial men whose life was a part of the history of the county for many years, and whose character and worth won for him a high place in the regard of his fellow men. He was a man of great industry and tireless energy. No toil was too much for him, no sacrifice too great if made for his family or for the cause of humanity. He lived for home and family and for all the things worth while in life. He established a good home, brightened by the presence of a gracious wife, and together they labored to rear their children, and educate them as useful men and women. Loyal D. Colby was born in East Orange, Orange County, Vermont, April 20, 1836, son of Jonathan and Malinda (Proutt) Colby. He was reared and educated in his native town. In 1855 he and his father went to California, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and spent two years in the mines known as Garrotte No. 2, near Big Oak Flats. Then they returned to their home in Vermont. In 1858, with other members of the family, they started for the upper Mississippi region, driving the entire distance with eight head of horses, and bringing their household goods and supplies. Upon their arrival here they settled in Whitewater Township, in Winona County. Three years later they settled in Plainview Township, a few miles southeast of the village. Here they developed a good farm. Royal D. assisted his father with the farm work, and for several years taught school, his longest service being in the Whitewater Falls district. In 1863 he purchased 80 acres in section 16, Plainview Township, and to this place in 1867 he brought his bride. Later he bought 80 acres more, making a good farm of 160 acres lying on the eastern limits of the village. Here he spent the remainder of his life, dying February 24, 1919. Mr. Colby joined the Masonic order in Plainview in 1873, and was secretary from 1883 until advancing age caused his retirement in 1901. He was one of the most faithful brothers of the order and was numbered among its most honored members. He and his family were active in the affairs of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Colby was married January 1, 1867, at the bride's home, to Orrilla Avery, born in Corinth, Orange County, Vermont, daughter of Smith P. and Betsey (Nichols) Avery, substantial and well-to-do Vermont farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Colby were blessed with seven children: Lulu B., Gardner A., Carl W., Esther J., Rolla W., Albert and Nellie. Lulu B. is the wife of E. A. Carpenter, of Plainview. Gardner A. is proprietor of the moving picture theater at Plainview. Carl is editor of the Pine Co. Courier at Pipestone, this state. Esther J. is the wife of Dr. J. V. Anderson, of Red Wing, this state. Rolla W. lives in St. Paul. Albert died at thirteen months and Nellie at thirteen years. Mrs. Colby still lives in the family home, surrounded by the love and companionship of friends and relatives, and is highly esteemed by all who know her. The home has ever been a hospitable one, and has been one of the influences for good in the community.



William H. Lyon, a retired farmer residing in the village of Plainview, where he is a well known and respected citizen, was born in Ontario County, New York, January 1, 1837, son of John and Ann (Hinslea) Lyon. Both parents were English, the father born in 1808 and the mother in 1813. Married in England, they came to America in the early thirties, making the voyage on a sailing vessel. When in sight of New York City the vessel was driven back by adverse winds and it was two weeks later before they reached port, the total length of the voyage being six weeks and two days. Settling in Ontario County, New York, Mr. and Mrs. Lyon remained there until 1841, when they removed to Kenosha County, Wisconsin, where they took a farm. Five years later they sold out and moved to Fond du Lac County, where they made a permanent home and were engaged in agriculture, the father until his death in 1882. William H. Lyon was educated in the rural schools of Fond du Lac County and remained there until he grew to manhood. In 1859 he came to Minnesota, locating in Faribault County, where he remained until 1861, returned to Wisconsin, and in 1867 he came to Wabasha County, buying 80 acres of land in Elgin Township. There he built up a fine farm, purchasing additional land from time to time until he had in all 275 acres. His agricultural operations were ably conducted and proved remunerative, so that in 1899 he found himself able to retire, and moving to Plainview village, he purchased a comfortable residence here, which he still occupies. During his active career he served twelve years as clerk of his school district, and two years as supervisor, being chairman of the town board one year. Politically he is a Republican, while he and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Lyon was married in Fond du Lac County, March 10, 1864, to Sarah Batson, who was born in New York State, April 12, 1841, daughter of Josiah and Ann Maria (Gross) Batson. Her parents were natives of England, the father born December 7, 1803, the mother September 23, 1805. Married in England in September, 1828, they located, on their arrival in America, in New York State, whence they subsequently moved to Wisconsin, in which state they spent the rest of their lives. Their daughter Sarah, Mrs. William H. Lyon, died October 16, 1918. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lyon: Hattie R., October 21, 1866, who died September 6, 1882; Nellie L., born November 23, 1868; Emma Belle, May 9, 1873; John B., May 16, 1875; Charles G., April 7, 1877, and Ethel Maud, September 6, 1881. Nellie L. was married June 26, 1907, to A. M. Goodrich, and is now a resident of Andover, S. D. Emma Belle was married August 2, 1898, to Merritt J. Horn, and resides on the old Lyon farm in Elgin Township. She has one son, Herbert A., who was born August 14, 1900. John B., elsewhere mentioned, is recently deceased. Charles G., who is proprietor of a fruit farm at Greenacre, Wash., was married July 30, 1901, to May Ordway, and has one child, Fern D'Etta, born July 1, 1902. Ethel Maud was married June 26, 1917, to A. D. Smith, an attorney now of Isle, Minn., and has two children, Helen L., born November 30, 1918, and Doris Lucille, born January 25, 1920. It will thus be seen that Mr. Lyon, though now a widower, has four living children and six grandchildren. All his children were trained in habits of industry and are proving themselves useful members of their respective communities.

George F. Hassig, a well-to-do citizen of Plainview, where he is now living retired after an active life of many years as a farmer and stock raiser, was born in Winona County, Minn., March 13, 1864. His parents, Napoleon and Fiannah (Sloth) Hassig, were natives of Indiana. The father, Napoleon Hassig, came to Winona County, Minn., in 1861, but in the following year he returned to Indiana and was married, in 1862, at once bringing his bride to the new home location in Winona County, where he had taken a claim of 160 acres of wild land. The home itself had to be developed, but all things were in time accomplished, not, however, without many hardships being suffered, such as practically all the pioneer settlers in this region were familiar with. But all difficulties encountered were happily surmounted. Mr. Hassig built a comfort-





MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM H. LYON







able residence and substantial out-buildings, broke and cultivated his land, and in time became a prosperous and influential citizen. He continued farming until his death on March 14, 1918. His wife, Fiannah, passed away many years before him, on May 31, 1884. They had nine children: George F., Alice, Minnie, Mary, Lillie and William (twins), Gertrude, Aaron and Edna. Gertrude and Minnie are now deceased. George F. Hassig acquired his education in the district schools of Whitewater Township, Winona County. He grew to manhood on the home farm, and was associated with his father in its operation until reaching the age of 39 years. Then, about 1903, he bought a farm of his own, containing 160 acres, and which was situated near that of his parents. Two additional purchases, each of 40 acres, increased its total area to 240 acres. There he followed diversified farming and stock raising, breeding full blooded Durham cattle of the beef type, which he shipped to market. In this manner he was profitably engaged until the fall of 1919, when, having acquired a reasonable competency, he sold his farm and purchased a fine modern residence on High street, Plainview, where he and his wife are now enjoying a well earned leisure. For three years formerly Mr. Hassig served as treasurer of his school district. He was married, September 2, 1903, to Lillian Brownell, who was born in Pleasant Grove, Olmsted County, Minn., April 13, 1864, daughter of Truman and Lucy (Curtiss) Brownell. He and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Hassig's parents were natives respectively of Vermont and New York State, and came west to Olmsted County, Minnesota, in the early fifties. There they resided until 1868, when they removed to Ottertail County, Minn., where Mrs. Lucy Brownell died in 1898. Mr. Brownell subsequently moved to North Dakota, then to South Dakota, and after that to Douglass County, Minn., where he died in 1912. There were six children in the Brownell family, Hattie, Ida, Gifford, Lillian, Helen and Chauncey, all of whom are now living.

**Hugh Gilcreast**, now living retired in the village of Plainview, was for a number of years one of the active and successful farmers of this locality, his industry and thrift procuring for him the competence he now enjoys. He was born in Dubuque, Iowa, August 29, 1861, son of Joseph and Ann (Kearns) Gilcreast. The father was a native of Scotland and the mother of Ireland. Both came to this country single and they were married in Dubuque. In 1862 they came to Minnesota and located in Highland Township, Wabasha County, purchasing a claim of 160 acres, on which Joseph Gilcreast lived until 1878. They then sold the farm and returned to Iowa, where he continued in agricultural pursuits until his death. His wife died in Highland Township in 1875. Hugh Gilcreast was but a year old when he accompanied his parents to this county. He was educated in the district school in Highland Township and was reared to manhood and industrial activity on the home farm. In 1878 he began working out at farm labor, saving his money with an eye to future independence and a farm of his own. The latter he purchased in section 36, Highland Township—a farm of 160 acres. This he operated for five years, when he sold it and bought 80 acres in Plainview Township, section 14, later buying 80 more acres adjoining, his farm then comprising the whole of the northeast quarter of section 14, with an area of 160 acres. There he was engaged in agriculture for some 17 years, counting from the time of his first purchase in section 14, and met with good success. He also took his place as one of the township's leading citizens, serving on the school board, having previously served on the town board of Highland Township. In March, 1915, Mr. Gilcreast sold his farm and moved to Plainview village, where he has since led a life of ease and leisure on his well earned competence. He is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America and the Modern Woodmen of America, and, religiously, of the Catholic church. On June 19, 1894, Mr. Gilcreast was married to Catherine McNallan, who was born in Highland Township, this county, November 22, 1868, daughter of Walter and Ellen (Kinsella) McNallan. Three children have

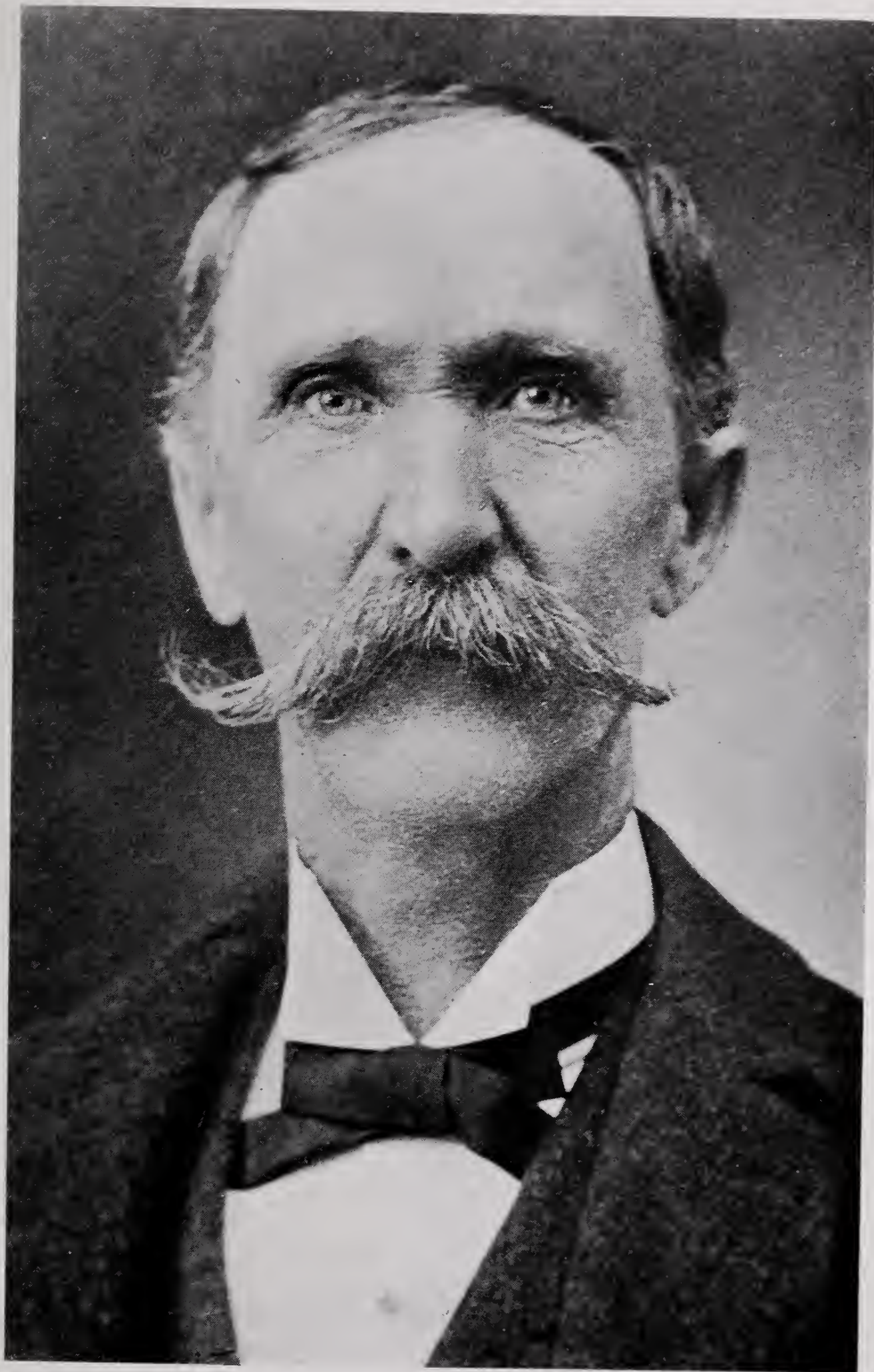


been born to them: Walter A., May 19, 1895; Roy M., December 10, 1897, and Thomas I., June 20, 1898. Walter A., now residing at home, enlisted May 28, 1918, in the Quartermaster Corps for service in the World War, and was at Camp Kearney, Calif. He was discharged April 15, 1919. Roy M., who was graduated from Plainview high school in the class of 1916, enlisted in the navy, June 3, 1918, and in September, the same year, went across to Europe in a merchant ship. He was discharged at the Great Lakes Training Station, September 22, 1919, and is now a student in the Iowa State College at Ames, Iowa. Thomas I. is residing at home.

Walter McNallan, one of the pioneer settlers in Highland Township, was born in Ireland, and arrived in this county in 1858. Settling on 80 acres of timber land in Highland Township, he grubbed and cleared the land and laid the foundations of a good farm. His labors were interrupted by the Civil War, as he enlisted in 1861 in Company H, Tenth Minnesota Volunteers, with which organization he served until the close of the war, being honorably discharged with the rank of corporal. On his return home he resumed his labors on the farm, cultivating the soil and erecting buildings, and also from time to time making other land purchases until he found himself the owner of 1,200 acres, much of which he developed. His activities easily placed him in the front rank of those sturdy pioneers who built up the county and helped to place it the first, or among the first, in the state in agricultural wealth. Mr. McNallan married Ellen Kinsella, who proved a loving and faithful helpmate, and they enjoyed many years of happy married life together, which, however, were terminated in a sad and tragic manner. On October 28, 1909, while they were crossing the tracks of the Milwaukee railroad, at Lake City they were hit by a train and Mrs. McNallan was instantly killed, Mr. McNallan losing his right foot by the accident. Crushed by this misfortune, he gave up farming, and spent the rest of his days retired. His life came to a close April 6, 1917, and in his passing the county lost one of its notable and most worthy pioneers.

George C. Richmond, veteran of the Civil War, pioneer of three states, early railroad man, and successful farmer, was a man of sterling qualities. He was a man of business ability whose foresight enabled him to secure a competency. In early life he was a man of great industry and untiring activity. In all things he was a man among men. No man was ever more thoughtful of others; it was his greatest pleasure to witness the success of his friends, and his kindly acts to those less fortunate than himself won for him the esteem and highest regard of all who knew him. His death was sincerely mourned, and his memory will long be cherished. George C. Richmond was born in Orleans County, New York, August 16, 1837, son of Brazilla and Sarah Jane (Moore) Richmond. In 1846 he was taken by his parents to a farm near Lima Center, Rock County, Wis., and there he spent his youth. In 1857 he became section foreman for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Co. Two years later, he joined a party of gold diggers and spent some ten months in the vicinity of Pike's Peak. During this period he claimed 160 acres covering a part of the present site of Denver, Col. But this was in the days of "Squatter Sovereignty" and his claim did not prove valid. In 1860 he returned to Wisconsin and became a fireman with the company that had previously employed him. At the beginning of the Civil War, in August, 1862, he enlisted in the 24th Wis. Vol. Inf., and with the exception of ten months when he was detailed for service with the First Kentucky Battery, Heavy Artillery, served with the Wisconsin regiment until the close of the war. He was with General Sherman until he reached Atlanta, and from that place returned under General Thomas to Nashville, participating in some of the severest and most costly engagements of the war. Among the battles in which he participated were: Perryville, October 8, 1862; Stone River, December 31, 1862; Chickamauga, September 19-20, 1863; Mission Ridge, November 24-25, 1863; Rocky Face, May 9, 1864; Resaca, May 14, 1864; Calhoun, May 16, 1864; Adairsville, May 18, 1864;





GEORGE C. RICHMOND







Dallas, May 25 to June, 1864; Lost Mountain, June 16, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864; Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1864; Atlanta, July 22, 1864; Jonesboro, September 1, 1864; Lovejoy, September 2, 1864; Spring Hill, November 2, 1864; Franklin, November 30, 1864; Nashville, December 15-16, 1864. After the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and resumed railroad work, first as a foreman of a track laying crew and later as a fireman. In 1866 he came to Plainview, and purchased 40 acres of land adjoining a 40-acre tract which he had purchased during a brief visit the previous year, and with this start he engaged in farming for many years, making a specialty of breeding Norman horses, of which he owned some of the best in southeastern Minnesota. At various times he bought and sold rural property, so that at one time and another he owned some of the best farms on Greenwood Prairie. After a long life filled with worthy effort he died at Plainview, March 30, 1917. In fraternal affiliation he was a member of the Plainview Lodge, I. O. O. F., which he joined in the seventies, and through the chairs of which he passed in the early days of the local order. George C. Richmond was married September 6, 1867, to Electa Fidelia Colby, daughter of George and Emily (Pardee) Colby, and to this union were born two sons, Charles, of Plainview, and Frank, of Minneiska. Mrs. Electa Fidelia (Colby) Richmond died August 24, 1909. Mr. Richmond was again married to Eva Porter. After this marriage Mr. Richmond moved to Clark, S. D., and there he remained until a short time before his death, when he took up his home with his son, Charles, of Plainview.

**Charles E. Richmond**, now engaged in the real estate and stock buying business in Plainview, is a man who, through enterprise and industry, has made steady progress in the world, and has been an active factor in business circles both here and elsewhere for a long period. He was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn., July 24, 1868, son of George C. and Electa F. (Colby) Richmond, and was educated in the Plainview public and high schools. His early industrial experience was along agricultural lines, and he subsequently became manager of a farm situated in Oakwood and Elgin Townships, in the former of which he had his residence. After four years on that place, he went to Brown's Valley, Minn., where he spent one year. Then returning to Plainview, he located in the village, and for five years was engaged in the draying business. After that, for a year and a half, the elevator and fuel industry claimed his attention. In 1899 he was sent to Elgin as manager of the elevator belonging to the Western Elevator Co., and as such was occupied until 1906. The next six years he spent as manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Clark, S. D. He now began investments on his own account, buying an elevator at Linton, N. D., which he sold within a few months. He then bought the A. F. Thompson elevators at Plainview and Viola, Minn., and was engaged in their operation until July, 1917, when he sold out to M. J. Manchester. Since then he has been associated as partner with Dr. F. M. McClure in the real estate business, and the buying and selling of horses and cattle, and together they own and operate four farms—three in this county and one in Olmsted County—engaging help to do the actual work. Mr. Richmond also owns land in North and South Dakota, and is a director in the Clark County National Bank of Clark, S. D. Aside from his personal interests, which are large, he has devoted considerable time to public affairs. He is now serving as a member of the village council, and during the recent World War he was a member of the committees on the Labor Department, Four-Minute Men, and the First Liberty Loan, being chairman of each. As such he rendered efficient and patriotic service and helped to put this county well to the front in the work done to win the war. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, belonging also to the Mystic Shrine, and to the Independent Order of Foresters. Politically he is classed among the Independent Republicans, and he and his family attend the Congregational church. Mr. Richmond assumed domestic responsibilities on June 16, 1888, when he was united in marriage with Harriett B. Marshall, who was



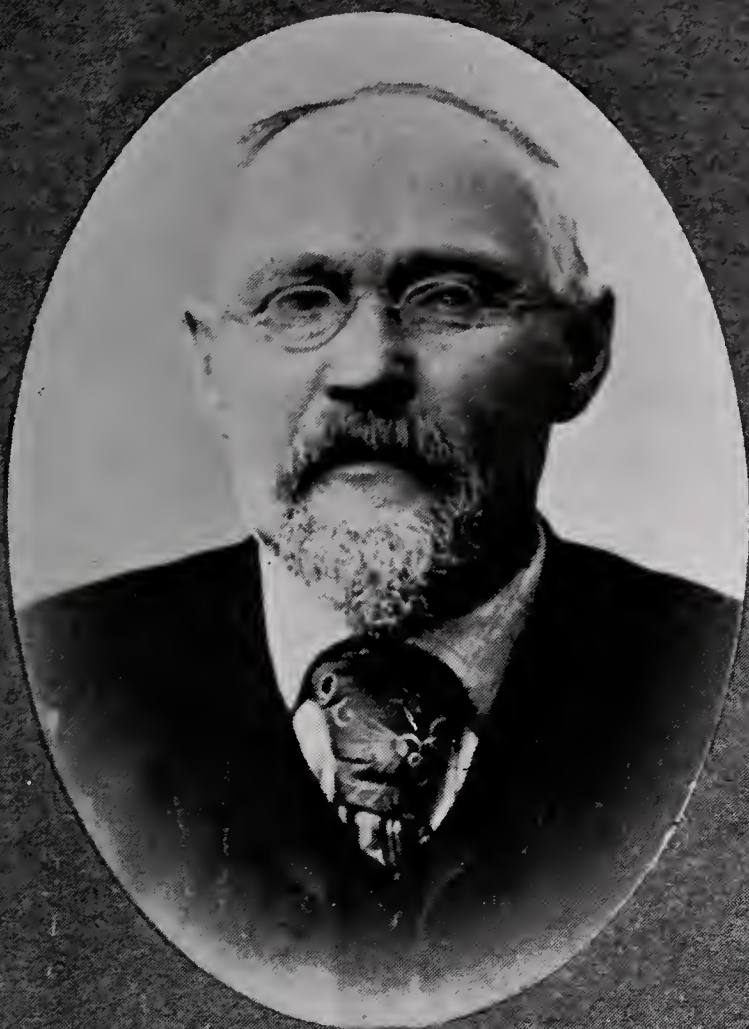
born February 1, 1870, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Marshall. The children of this union are: Hazel F., born May 25, 1889; De Etta G., March 4, 1891; Irl, March 21, 1895; Helen G., February 7, 1907; and Glenn C., November 29, 1910. Hazel F. is now the wife of Horace Bennett, of Clark, S. D., and has one child, John R. De Etta G., the wife of Comillo Clark, of Menomonie, Wis., has two children, Jane and David. Irl M. is now second man for the Bottsford Lumber Co., at Plainview. During the World War he enlisted in Winona, and was subsequently a pupil in aviation at West Point, Miss., and at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. Helen G. and Glenn C. are now attending public school.

**David Grieve**, one of the pioneers of Plainview Township, was a native of Scotland, from which country he emigrated to Canada. After a residence of about three years in the Dominion, he came to the States, locating first near Markesan, Green Lake County, Wisconsin. There, however, he remained for but a year, at the end of which time, about 1860, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota. For a short time he worked at anything he could find to do, most of the time breaking prairie land for the neighbors, for which purpose he used three teams of oxen. In 1863 he enlisted in the First Minnesota Light Artillery, and with that organization accompanied Sherman on his march to the sea, serving in all 18 months. After the war, on October 17, 1865, he was united in marriage, in Plainview Township, to Elizabeth Tyson, who was born in London, Ontario, Canada, in 1844, daughter of Joseph D. and Mary Ann Tyson. Her parents had come to Minnesota in 1856, for three years conducting a hotel in Wabasha City. They then settled on a farm located on the line between Plainview Township and Winona County, having 80 acres on each side of the line. There Mr. Tyson farmed until his death in 1885. Mrs. Mary Ann Tyson died in 1894. About the time of his marriage David Grieve began farming for himself, buying 120 acres of land in Plainview Township. That occupation he followed for the rest of his life, passing away February 9, 1899. His wife, who survived him, is now residing with her son, William H., in Plainview. Mr. and Mrs. David Grieve had two children, Jessie and William H. Jessie, who died in May, 1905, was twice married: first to Owen Southwick, who died two years after their marriage, leaving one son, Earl R. She married, secondly, Edgar Wentworth, of Plainview Township, by whom she had two sons, Vernon and Francis.

**William H. Grieve**, who is now living retired in the village of Plainview, on a competence acquired through a successful career in agriculture, was born April 28, 1869, son of David and Elizabeth (Tyson) Grieve. He was educated in the district school and acquired his knowledge of agriculture on the home farm of his parents, lying in Plainview Township. At times also he worked for others as a farm hand. After his father's death in 1899 he took charge of the home farm, which he operated until June, 1919, when the farm was sold, and in the following September he removed to Plainview, where he is now living with his mother. Mr. Grieve was married, April 7, 1896, to Daisy Sargent, daughter of Marcenus and Julia (Smith) Sargent, who were early settlers in Wabasha County, her mother being a sister of Mrs. Orin Wood. There were five children in the Grieve family, three of whom are now living: Blanche, Ila and Milton. Blanche, who married Adolph Muessell, lives on a farm in Plainview Township, and has two sons, Ralph and Byrl. Ila and Milton are residing at home. Those deceased are: David, who died at the age of four and a half years, December 27, 1905; and one who died in infancy with his mother, July 2, 1913. Mr. Grieve was for twelve years chairman of the Plainview town board. He is fraternally affiliated with the Masons, Odd Fellows and Woodmen. As a public official he showed efficiency and a keen perception of local needs and interests and as a man and citizen is esteemed by his fellow townsmen, as one with an honorable career who has done his part in helping to build up the resources of the county.

**J. H. O'Connell**, long a resident of Plainview, and for many years connected with the active business interests of the community, was born in Al-





MR. AND MRS. JULIUS FRICKE  
MR. AND MRS. J. H. O'CONNELL







bany, N. Y., March 16, 1847. In 1850 he moved with his parents to Illinois, where he spent his boyhood days and acquired his education. In 1868 he came to Minnesota, first locating at Minneiska, where he taught school for the first few years, and later taught the Woodland school. He came to Plainview about 1874, and for a number of years was engaged in the grain business at Minneiska and Plainview for the H. J. O'Neil Grain Company. On October 14, 1877, he married Minnie Frick, and shortly afterwards returned to Minneiska for a brief residence. Then coming back to Plainview, he took charge of the O'Neil elevator, which position he held until about 1898. For the next few years he was traveling agent for the American Malting Company, after which he retired from active business life. He died April 5, 1918. For a number of years previous to his death he had held the position of village assessor which he filled to the satisfaction of all. His life and career was one that touched the community in many ways. For many years he had been one of Plainview's foremost business men, never content to plod along in the old worn-out paths, but energetic and progressive, always planning something for the advancement and welfare of the community. A great reader, he kept in touch with all the live questions of the day, and his opinion on public affairs was often sought. He frequently protested against American waste and extravagance and argued for a more business-like management of public affairs. He was foremost in the fight against reactionary forces, and while he devoted himself keenly to practical things, he also took an interest in the pleasures and refinements of life. Early in his career he became affiliated with the Masonic order, for 41 years being a member of the local lodge, and the order conducted the services at his grave. Those at his home were conducted by the Rev. J. L. Jones of the Congregational church, interment being made in Greenwood cemetery. Besides his wife Mr. O'Connell was survived by one son, H. J. O'Connell, now a leading business man of Plainview; two brothers, R. A. O'Connell, of St. Paul, and Charles O'Connell, of Shoshoni, and one sister, Mrs. Margaret Whitney, of Shoshoni, Wyo. Mr. and Mrs. O'Connell had another child, a daughter, Frances, who died in infancy. Mrs. Minnie O'Connell was born in New York City, January 19, 1857. She was educated in the Plainview high school, and also took special studies in drawing, art and music. Prior to her marriage she taught school in Wabasha County for five years, teaching her first term at the age of fifteen. In 1872 she became a member of the Congregational church, officiating as organist for five years. The Rev. Henry Williard, the first pastor of that church, was pastor at that time and many years after. She is also a member of the Travelers' Club, the G. A. R. Circle and the Rebeckah Lodge, I. O. O. F.

**Edward Stokes**, who holds the position of engineer on the pontoon bridge over the Mississippi river at Reed's Landing, was born at Durand, Wis., April 26, 1864, son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Pangler) Stokes. The father, who was born in Indiana of Dutch ancestry, was a marine engineer, which occupation he followed for years on the Chippewa and Mississippi rivers. The mother was born in Germany and came to this country at the age of 13 years. The former died in 1904 and the latter in 1899; they were buried at Reed's Landing, Minn. Edward Stokes was one of a family of three children, the two elder being Emma E., now deceased, and Elmer E. He attended the common school at Durand until completing the seventh grade and began river work at the age of seventeen. At the age of 21 he received an engineer license and for 13 years subsequently worked as engineer of river boats. In 1898 he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, and so remained for seven years, working as engineer on a pile driver at various points on the River Division. In 1905 he was assigned to his present position and has proved his capacity so as to be one of the trusted employes of the road. He owns a comfortable home at Reed's Landing. Politically he is a Republican, though not a strong party man, and is liberal in support of church, though not a mem-



ber. Mr. Stokes was married October 11, 1893, to Augusta, daughter of Henry and Pauline Duerre, of Reed's Landing. Mrs. Stokes has always been affiliated with the M. E. church. For many years she was also a teacher in the public schools, and is a lady highly thought of, with many friends. Mr. Stokes stands high as a citizen, and is a man whose aid and influence can be counted on in behalf of any worthy cause. They have two sons: Henry Duerre, born October 26, 1894; and Clarence A., born October 14, 1897. Henry Duerre Stokes was graduated from the Wabasha high school and the College of Dental Surgery at Chicago. During the recent war he served in the medical corps at Ft. Snelling from August 13, 1918, to August 9, 1919. Clarence A. Stokes graduated from the Wabasha high school, after which he studied mechanical science in Chicago, and for one year at the Dunwoody Institute at Minneapolis. He is now a machinist with the Wilcox Trux Co. of Minneapolis.

**Henry Duerre**, pioneer hotel keeper, early merchant, Civil War officer, and useful citizen, was for many years a familiar character at Read's Landing, not only to the pioneers of this county, but also to the boatmen, who in those days swarmed the Mississippi. He was born in Brunswick, Germany, February 30, 1830, and was given an excellent education, acquiring a mastery of the French, German and English languages, to which in America, as a pioneer, he later added a smattering of the Sioux Indian. In 1852 he emigrated to the United States, and after residing for awhile in Ohio, he came in 1857 to Read's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn. For awhile he found employment cutting cordwood in a camp across the river near Alma, Wis. A man of religious tendencies, and well versed in the Scriptures, he was accustomed to preach in camp on Sundays. On July 30, 1859, Mr. Duerre was united in marriage with Pauline Lutz, who was born December 8, 1839, daughter of George and Wilhelmina Lutz, of Calmbach, Wurttemberg, Germany, and had come to this country with a sister when in her "teens." Mr. and Mrs. Duerre began housekeeping in the old St. Julian Hotel, afterward called the "Bullard," at Read's Landing, which they conducted successfully up to 1862. When the Civil War broke out Mr. Duerre was on the high road to success. As time went on the general ill success of the Union arms showed the people of the North that the Southern Confederacy was not easily to be put down. Filled with loyalty for his adopted country, he enlisted September 1, 1862, in Company K, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Entering the service as a private, he was soon assigned as a lieutenant to the Commissary Department, and at Ft. Snelling and Ft. Ridgeley served as clerk in the court-martial office, receiving the highest commendation from the then governor of Minnesota, with recommendation for promotion. After his return home, with an excellent record, Mr. Duerre engaged in the general mercantile business at Read's Landing with Joseph Netzer as a partner, and the business was thus continued for a few years, after which Mr. Duerre became sole proprietor, and so remained until his death on April 24, 1880. As a merchant he met with well merited success. His position as storekeeper in a boat-landing town, where so many of the early settlers disembarked, and where so many of the pioneers came for provisions, gave him a commanding influence, and his ability as a linguist brought joy to many a lonely immigrant beginning life in a strange, wild country. His benefactions were many, his charities were unlimited, and many of the people of the county were kept from actual want by his generous help, given so freely that it retarded his own financial prosperity. He left his memory deeply graven on the hearts of those whom his mercy had blessed. As a citizen he was interested in everything calculated to benefit the community in which he lived. On April 24, 1880, Mr. Duerre died, and after eight years, on July 3, 1888, his wife followed him to the grave. Both were earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church. Their union was blessed with eight children: Wilhelmina, born June 8, 1860; Augusta, September 21, 1862; George F., August 16, 1865; Edward Richards, October 3, 1867; William P., November 2, 1869; Harry J., October 21, 1873; Lottie, September 22, 1875; and Mathias



T., October 2, 1877. Of these children three are now deceased: Wilhelmina having died June 25, 1861; Harry J., November 23, 1909; and Lottie, September 8, 1877. George F., formerly county treasurer of Wabasha County, is now a successful hardware merchant in Plainview. Augusta is the wife of Edward Stokes, of Read's Landing. Edward R. resides in Wabasha. William P. is a well known dentist of Lake City. Mathias T. is now in the insurance business with headquarters at Plainview. Mr. Duerre was always a Republican in politics, but not a strict party man, exercising the right of private judgment in casting his ballot.

**Charles Nienow**, now living retired in Plainview, is one of the many citizens of this county who has found contentment and prosperity in the cultivation of the soil, which has enabled him to spend his latter years in comfortable leisure. He was born in Germany, December 2, 1853, son of John and Minnie (Bessert) Nienow, and came with his parents to the United States in 1868, as a boy of fifteen. The family settled in Elba Township, Winona County, where, after many years spent in farming, the father, John Nienow, died in July, 1900. The mother survived him until 1915. Charles Nienow was mainly educated in Germany, but after coming to this country attended English school for a while. For a number of years he helped his father on the home farm, and afterwards worked out as a farm laborer for others. In 1880, having saved some money, he bought a farm of 80 acres in Elba Township, Winona County, not far from his parents' place, where he followed general agriculture on his own account until 1894. Then selling that farm, he came to Wabasha County and bought one of 160 acres in section 36, Oakwood Township. This was a partly improved place, but the buildings were poor and there were no fences. He at once set to work to improve it, and in time brought the land to a high state of cultivation, besides erecting a good house, new barns and out-buildings, and supplying adequate fencing. His operations, conducted with foresight and industry, brought their reward in an ample competence, and in his established standing as an enterprising and successful farmer, good neighbor, and useful citizen. In 1915 Mr. Nienow retired, selling 80 acres of his farm to his son, John, and retaining 80 acres, which he still owns. At the same time he purchased his present comfortable home in Plainview. In addition to his activities above mentioned, Mr. Nienow was formerly a director and stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery Association, and for some time served as clerk of his school district. He and his family are members of the German Lutheran church. On October 22, 1880, Mr. Nienow was married to Bertha Patzel, who was born in Germany, January 5, 1863, daughter of Charles and Augusta (Schubert) Patzel, with whom she came to America at the age of four years. Her parents located first in Elba Township, Winona County, Minn., afterwards removing to Quincy Township in Olmsted County, and later, on their retirement, to St. Charles, where they spent their declining years, Mr. Patzel dying in 1912, and Mrs. Patzel in 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Nienow are the parents of seven children: William, born December 3, 1881; Anna, March 16, 1883; George, August 26, 1885; John, July 1, 1889; Fred, February 16, 1892; Edward, August 30, 1895; and Essie, July 18, 1902. William, who is a farmer in Oakwood Township, this county, married Kate Mielke, and has one child, Howard. Anna, who is the wife of William Brueska, a farmer in Elgin Township, has had nine children: Inez (deceased), Inez (second), Mabel, Violet, Edward, Alta, Ralph, Harry and Esther. George, who married Mary Kinsella, and resides in Plainview, has two children, Mary and Elmer. John is a farmer in Oakwood Township. He married Myrtle Baker and has two children, Mildred and Jesse. Fred, who is living on the home farm, married Charlotte Folsted and has three children, Grace, Roy and Floyd. Edward, who lives in Plainview, married Bessie Purvis. Essie is residing at home with her parents.

**Patrick Melvin**, a well to do resident of the village of Plainview, where he and his wife are enjoying a well earned leisure after many years spent in

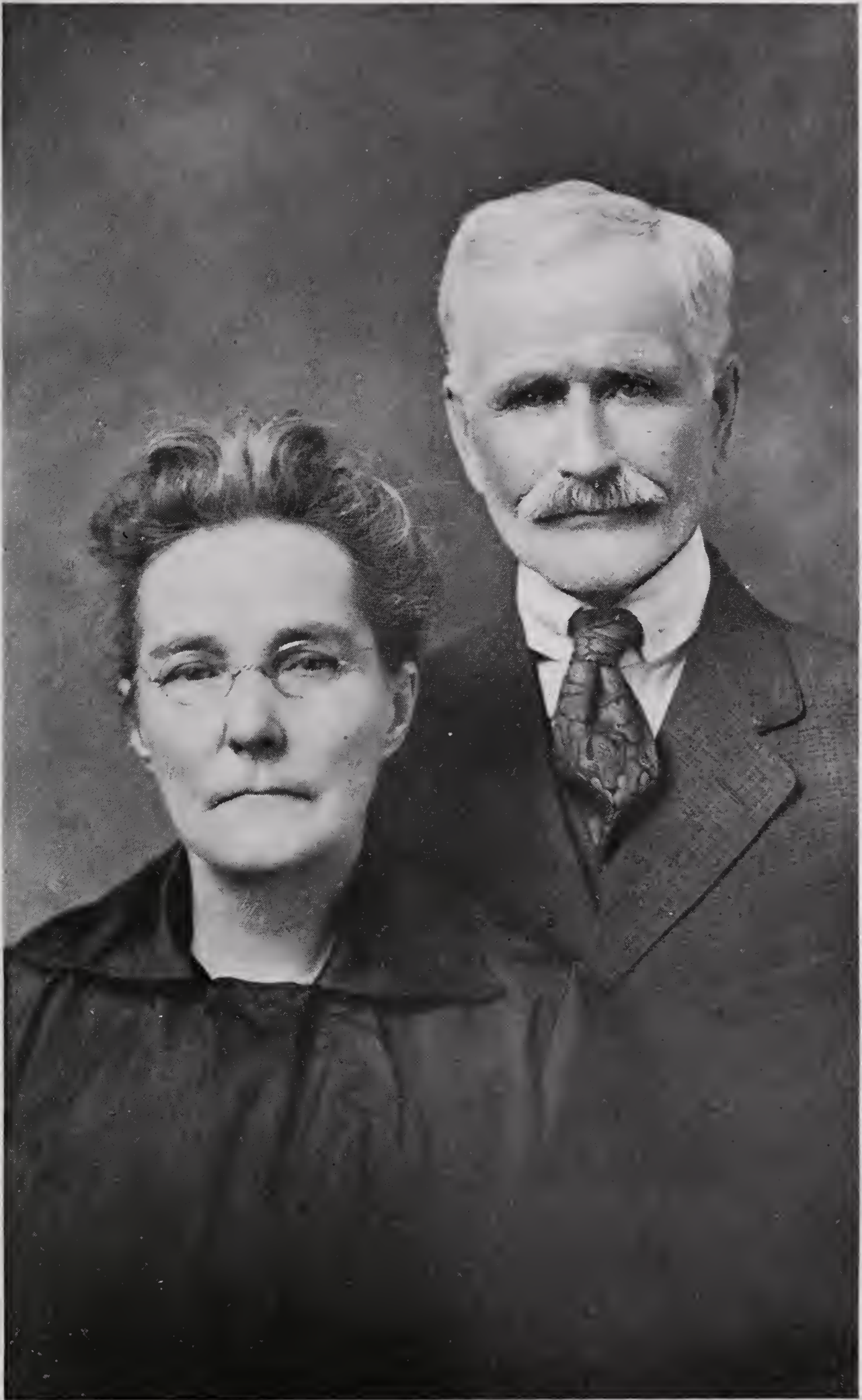


agricultural activities, was born in Canada, February 7, 1856, son of Edward and Margaret (Welch) Melvin. The parents were born and married in Ireland, later emigrated to Canada, and came from the latter country to the United States in 1870, settling in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where they spent the rest of their lives in farming. Edward Melvin died in 1880 and his wife in 1902. Patrick Melvin first attended school in Canada, but completed his educational studies in Wabasha County. After remaining with his parents until he was 19 years old, he started out in the world for himself, and for seven winters was employed in the Wisconsin timber lands at lumbering, working as a farm hand in the summers. During this period he was carefully saving his money with an eye to the future. In 1883 he bought 80 acres of land in Plainview Township, and set to work with a strong heart and will to carve out his fortune. In 1887 he added 80 acres more to his holdings, and from time to time he made other purchases. In 1910 he bought a farm of 160 acres in Oakwood Township, and later 80 acres in Elgin Township. Still later, he bought another 80-acre tract, adjoining the home farm, these combined purchases giving him 480 acres of land in all. His agricultural operations were conducted with vigor and good judgment and had profitable results. He took a prominent part in the development of the crop and stock raising industries of his township, also took a helpful part in the general affairs of the community, and was a man highly respected and esteemed by his neighbors. In the spring of 1919 Mr. Melvin gave up the farm, and, leaving his sons to run it, retired to Plainview, where he purchased his present home, a nice, modern bungalow, where he and his wife are spending the afternoon of life in quiet and happiness. Mr. Melvin was married April 6, 1886, to Louise Mulcahy, who was born March 10, 1862, in Galena, Ill., daughter of Richard and Catherine (Swift) Mulcahy. The children born of this union are as follows: Eddie, who died February 20, 1887; George, born October 30, 1887, who married Bertha Gessner, and is now a farmer in Oakwood Township; Frank, born October 8, 1889; Harry, born January 8, 1892, who married Grace McGrath; Josephine Celeste, born May 6, 1894, who married Edward Schad; Charles E., born July 18, 1896; Arthur Joseph, born August 14, 1898; and Angela Marie, born October 14, 1900. Mr. Melvin and his family are members of the Catholic church.

**Richard Mulcahy**, for many years a well known resident of the town of Elgin, and for the last five years of his life of the village of that name, was born in Ireland and came to America in the year 1851. In 1856 he was married, in New York City, to Catherine Swift, and they came west to Galena, Ill. Later they removed to Dubuque, Iowa, and in the spring of 1883 came to Minnesota, settling on a farm in Elgin Township. There he resided until his retirement in 1892, when he and his wife took up their residence in Plainview, where they had many friends and were highly respected. Mr. Mulcahy had a great liking for children and was familiarly known by many of those in the neighborhood as "Grandpa." His wife, Catherine Swift Mulcahy, more commonly called "Grandma" Mulcahy, died at Millville in 1902. She was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in October, 1834, and in 1854 came to America, locating in New York, where she married Richard Mulcahy, as above mentioned. She, like her husband, was a faithful member of the Catholic church. Their children were: Richard F., of Plainview; Mrs. E. Melvin and Mrs. P. Melvin, of Plainview; Mrs. J. Nolan, Plainview; John, dead; Richard Mulcahy, of Plainview, and Mrs. T. Shea, of Pipestone, Minn.

**George W. Harrington** was one of the early settlers who made himself decidedly felt in the life of the community. A man of profound convictions and decided opinions, he was a picturesque figure in the days of strenuous party politics, and he dearly loved the enthusiasm of public life. Though set in his own opinions, he never denied his opponents the right to theirs, and a strong antagonist on one subject might find him working by his side in friendliness on another subject. Perhaps his greatest work was his opposition to the





MR. AND MRS. PATRICK MELVIN







issuing and paying of the railroad bonds, his judgment in the end, long after his death, being ratified by the United States Supreme Court. For many years he served on the town board and in 1888 was elected to the State Legislature. Mr. Harrington was born at Barre, Vt., January 31, 1827, the son of David Harrington, who lives in history as the first man to get granite for architectural purposes from the now famous granite quarries of Barre. It was he who quarried the large pillars which ornament the State Capitol at Montpelier, in his native state, the pillars being not only an architectural feature of wonderful beauty and strength, but also a splendid exemplification of the texture and quality of the famous Barre granite. George W. grew to manhood on his father's farm not far from the famous quarries. There he married Martha Ann Walker, by whom he had two sons, Dean D., a well known resident of Plainview, Minn., and Frank. In 1856 he brought his family to Minnesota, and settled on Greenwood Prairie, this county, where he spent the remainder of his years in agricultural pursuits. He was a Mason in Vermont, and became one of the charter members of the Plainview Blue Lodge and Chapter. In the affairs of the lodge he was very active, and seldom missed attendance at its communications. After a long and useful life he died August 10, 1891, and was sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends. His wife died in 1909.

**Dean D. Harrington**, a substantial citizen of Plainview, was born in Barre, Vt., May 17, 1850, the son of George W. and Martha Ann (Walker) Harrington. He came west with his parents and brother Frank in 1856, and was reared on the home farm three miles east of Plainview. At the age of twenty-one he went to the pineries of the Black River district in Wisconsin and was employed for several years in the lumber business at Humbird, in Clark County, that state. Then he returned to Wabasha County and purchased 80 acres in section 14, Plainview Township. To this he later added another 80 acres. On this tract he successfully farmed until 1909 when he retired and moved to the Village of Plainview. Here he has done considerable public service, giving general satisfaction as justice of the peace for five years, and as a member of the school board for a similar period. In politics, Mr. Harrington is a Republican, and the family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Harrington was married November 30, 1876, to Ellen Carpenter, who was born in Franklinville, McHenry County, Ill., July 17, 1853, the daughter of Timothy and Emmaline (Webster) Carpenter. This union has been blessed with two daughters. Mabel was born December 14, 1878, and died in infancy. Nettie was born March 16, 1881, graduated from the Plainview high school, spent three years at the University of Minnesota, and is now a successful teacher of fourth grade studies.

**Timothy Carpenter**, for several years a Plainview blacksmith, was born in Pennsylvania, and there married Emmaline Webster, also a native of that state. They came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1850, and there lived until 1874 when they came to Plainview Township. Mr. Carpenter died in 1887 and his wife in 1906.

**Michael Foley**, well known for a number of years as one of the enterprising and successful farmers of Highland Township, but now living retired in Plainview, was born in Ireland, October 31, 1845, son of Jeremiah and Catherine (Murphy) Foley. He attended school in his native land, but seeking a wider field of opportunity than he could find there, in 1864, at the age of 19, he came to the United States. His first six years in this country were spent in railroad work in Michigan, Wisconsin and Nebraska. Then he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and engaged in farming, at first on rented land. Subsequently he bought 80 acres in section 35, Highland Township, on which a small house was standing, into which he moved. There he lived for ten years, at the end of which time he removed to an 80-acre farm in the same section, which he had purchased some time before. As he retained the original place, he thus found himself in possession of a quarter section of land, which he developed into an



excellent farm, being a very enterprising and successful man in his vocation. He also increased his land holdings at intervals until he had 360 acres, all in section 35 except one quarter located in section 36. He followed general farming in all its branches, raising both grain and stock and doing considerable dairying. In 1914, having acquired an ample competence, he retired and took up his residence in Plainview, where he and his wife have a comfortable home and are surrounded by many old-time friends. The farm he sold to his sons Jeremiah and Thomas in 1918. Mr. Foley was married, July 16, 1876, to Mary Griffin, who was born in Ireland, in August, 1849, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Flanigan) Griffin. Her parents subsequently died in that country, which was their native land. To Mr. and Mrs. Foley nine children have been born: Ella, April 6, 1877, who died November 12, 1914; Patrick, born March 6, 1879; Mary, January 19, 1881; Jeremiah, December 31, 1883; Thomas, February 21, 1887; Katie, June 7, 1888; Agnes, July 2, 1889; Michael V., July 8, 1890, and John, July 24, 1891, who died May 14, 1910. The family are members of the Catholic church.

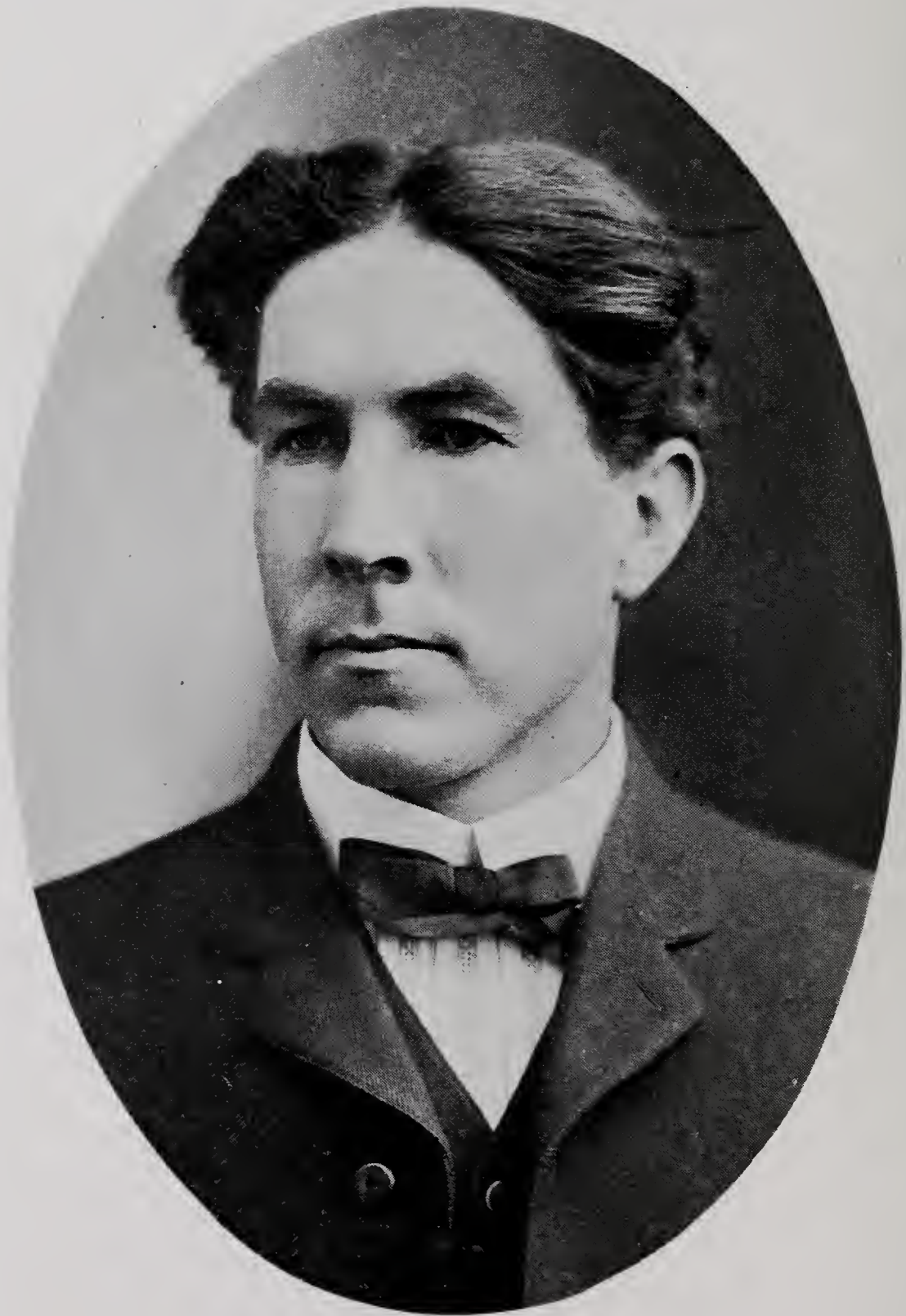
**George Foreman**, who has built up a business in the purchase and sale of hides at Plainview, was born in East Prussia, July 1, 1871, son of Jacob and Rosa Foreman. He was one of a family of five children, three of whom are now deceased. One sister is still residing in Prussia. The subject of this sketch came to the United States in 1890, thirty years ago, his brother Joe having preceded him by six years. The latter died in Baltimore, and another brother, Simon, died in Chicago in 1918. George Foreman first settled in Hagerstown, Md., where he remained for two years. From there he went to New Hampton, Ia., where he engaged in buying hides and handling junk, and was thus occupied in that place for 14 years. In 1895, leaving his family in Iowa, he came to Plainview, and established a business here. He brought his family to Plainview June 5, 1909, since which time he has made this village his home. He was married in Berlin, East Prussia, to Pearl Stern, daughter of Fred and Toba Stern, who came to that German province from east Russia. Mrs. Foreman came to the United States three years after her marriage. She and her husband are the parents of three children: Fred, born April 24, 1896; Anna, November 10, 1901; and Sara, August 20, 1903. All reside with their parents. The son Fred served in the recent world war, enlisting in the 112th Ammunition Train, Co. D. 37th Division, on April 8, 1918. He was ten months in France serving 45 days at the front, and was honorably discharged at Camp Grant, April 16, 1919. He is now engaged with his father in the hide business. Both are Blue Lodge Masons and belong also to the Odd Fellows.

**Welford G. Edwards**, proprietor of a blacksmith and machine shop at Plainview, was born at Pepin, Wis., October 9, 1867, son of Sylvester and Candace (Fuller) Edwards, the mother being a daughter of Ester Fuller. The parents were natives of Ohio, and came to Wisconsin, settling in Pepin, in 1861. The father, who followed the blacksmith's trade during his entire active career, died in Arkansaw, Pepin County, in 1901. The mother is now living in Plainview, Minn., to which place she came in December, 1918. Welford G. Edwards was educated in the Pepin and Arkansaw public schools. He learned the blacksmith's trade of his father, and the machinist's trade of his uncle, and has followed both ever since. He came to Plainview in 1902, and in 1909 opened a garage for the storage and sale of auto cars, being the first in Plainview to combine that business with blacksmithing and machine work. In June, 1918, he sold the auto business, and has since been engaged in blacksmithing and machine shop work with his brother Clayton. The latter is younger than himself, having been born at Arkansaw, Wis., June 6, 1873. The brothers seem to have struck a profitable line of enterprise, as they are both kept busy, and their business is on the increase. Welford G. Edwards had some former experience as a public official, serving for two years as auditor of Pepin County, Wis., and for six years as town clerk of Arkansaw, that county. He is a member of the









WILLIAM H. BURNHAM



Methodist church, and is fraternally affiliated with the Woodmen and Odd Fellows. He was first married, January 24, 1888, in Plainview, to Ida J. Wood, daughter of Alonzo and Genette Wood. Her parents, both of whom are now deceased, were early settlers in Plainview, having come to Wabasha County, Minn., from New York in 1850. Of her marriage with Mr. Edwards five children were born, two of whom are now deceased, namely, George, who died at the age of six years, and Grace, who died at the age of 22 at Pontiac, Mich., where she was residing. The survivors are Bessie, Ralph and Roy. Bessie is the wife of John Watcher of Plainview. Mr. Edward's first wife, Ida, died July 1, 1918, and on November 18, 1919, he married her cousin, Elizabeth, whose family name was La Rocque, and who was the widow of C. M. Wood.

**William Henry Burnham**, in former years an agriculturist, and later for several years until his death one of the prominent figures in the business world of Plainview having connection with farm enterprises, was born July 19, 1871, in Highland Township, this county, son of George H. and Mary E. (Gaylord) Burnham. He acquired his education in the Plainview schools, including the high school, and for three years subsequently was a teacher in the county. He then became his father's assistant on the home farm in Highland, and was thus occupied until October 5, 1909, when he bought a farm of 160 acres adjoining the home place, and began an independent career as agriculturist. While it lasted he greatly improved the place, but after some years his health began to fail, and accordingly in April, 1916, he rented the farm to a tenant and moved to Plainview, residing on High street. In the spring of that year he was elected manager of the Plainview Shipping Association, while at the same time he was president of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Association, having been elected to that office in 1912; and in the spring of 1918 he was elected its manager and secretary. The latter position he held but a short time when death called him. The heart weakness with which he was afflicted became gradually worse, and on June 27, 1918, he passed away, leaving behind him the memory of a true Christian gentleman, honest in all his dealings, patient under affliction, helpful to others, and faithful to every duty as husband, father, man and citizen. A local journal truly said of him: "Of a supremely conservative, modest and sincere nature, he was not a professor, but rather a liver of the highest and truest in life. Those who knew him best realized his deeply religious thoughts and beliefs, and knew that he always received the blessings which came into his life with a prayer of gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts, and that he never undertook the tasks of his daily business life without a prayer for guidance in the right." For several years he had served as clerk of his school district. He was a Master Mason, and while his funeral services were conducted at the home by the Rev. H. J. Hill, of the Church of Christ, the impressive burial service of the Masonic order was read at the grave, and he was laid to rest with its last solemn rites. Mr. Burnham was an ardent lover of nature, and when a robust young man, whether at work or play, liked to be out in the open air, the beauty of the fields, with their varied flowers, and the song of the birds, striking sympathetic chords in his breast. As a boy he had ambitions looking toward a higher education, but his parents needed his assistance, and at the call of duty he relinquished them, and made the best of such opportunities as he had. His talents were not wasted, and doubtless to him the Master has already said, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Mr. Burnham was married October 5, 1909, to Mrs. Bessie Zeisinger, who was born at Durand, Wis., April 7, 1876, daughter of John and Mary (Austin) Wilkinson. She was educated in the schools of Durand and after graduating from the high school, entered the Northern Illinois Normal School, where she took a musical course, both vocal and piano, being graduated in the class of 1895. She also took a course in public school music at Detroit, Mich., but abandoned this line of effort in favor of private teaching, which she has followed continuously, and did so even during her residence on the farm, having a large class in town.



She is now confining her labors to piano instruction, and has a class of thirty pupils. In May, 1919, Mrs. Burnham sold her farm and in the fall of the same year purchased her present home on the corner of High street. One child was born of her marriage with Mr. Burnham, namely, Mary Elizabeth, on March 3, 1912. By her first husband she has another daughter, Rachel, who resides with her. For a number of years Mrs. Burnham has been organist in the Church of Christ, and is now holding that position, as well as that of choir leader. Aside from her musical ability, she is a lady of general culture, and a favorite in social circles.

**Capt. John W. Burnham**, one of the most eminent of the men who have made Greenwood Prairie their home was born in Derry, New Hampshire, Nov. 19, 1829, son of George and Eliza Ann (McNiel) Burnham. He came to Minnesota Territory in April, 1856, with his brother William, and engaged in farming, taking up a quarter section in section 3, Plainview Township, by buying a settler's rights for \$200.00. In October of that year he was elected justice of the peace, and as such married the first couple, held the first court, and approved the first postmaster's bond on Greenwood Prairie. For a short time he was engaged in the mercantile business at Greenville, the first town laid out on Greenwood Prairie, and now only a memory of the past. In those days there was considerable doubt as to the rights of settlers on the Half Breed Tract, so-called, which embraced the greater part of Wabasha County. But in time, by the payment of \$4.50 an acre, Mr. Burnham managed to secure the title to 80 acres of land which he had improved. In 1862 he secured 160 acres more by preemption, paying the preemption fee with a soldier's land warrant which he purchased for \$90.00. In 1858 he was elected to the legislature but the session to which he was elected did not convene, and in 1859 he was reelected, serving two years. During his term in the legislature he had the honor of introducing a school land law, which was the means of bringing millions of dollars into the school fund of the state. Under this law, in 1861, Mr. Burnham, with I. C. Seeley of Mazeppa, and Lawrence Tracey, of West Albany, were appointed a board of appraisers of the school land in this county. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Co. C, 10th Minn. Vol. Inf., as a private. When the regiment was organized he was appointed a sergeant. The company was mounted, and served on the Minnesota frontier until February, 1863, when they went into winter quarters at Le Sueur. From May until October, 1863, he was with General Henry Sibley's expedition in the Dakotas, marching thirteen hundred miles, fighting four pitched battles in addition to skirmishes, and suffering much from hunger, thirst and fatigue. Subsequently the regiment was sent south, and for a while did duty in guarding the military prison there. In May, 1864, the regiment was sent to Kentucky, and thence to Tennessee and Mississippi. While absent on a sick leave he was commissioned second lieutenant August 18, 1865, and assigned to the 125th U. S. Colored Infantry, being promoted to first lieutenant, December 26, 1865. Soon after this, on January, 1866, he was married to Ada J. Lawrence, daughter of Benjamin and Jerusha Lawrence. At the close of the war his regiment was ordered to Fort Union, N. M., which was reached by taking a steamboat to Leavenworth, Kan., and marching overland from there to their destination. From Fort Union, Companies H. and G. marched 500 miles more to Fort Bliss, Tex., a total distance of 1,200 miles in 100 days. There they remained a year, guarding the frontier against the Indians and half breed Mexicans. While there, Lieutenant Burnham was detailed as member of a court martial at Albuquerque. The trip lasted three days and three nights of steady riding by stage. The trial lasted over two months, thirteen officers being tried on various charges. In the fall of 1866 his company marched to Ellsworth, Kan., the nearest railroad station, and went from there by rail to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where he was mustered out, October 31, 1867, after a service of five years and eighty days. Captain Burnham then returned to Plainview, where he still owned land, purchased more, and









MR. AND MRS. GEORGE H. BURNHAM



settled in Highland Township, where he again engaged in farming. In 1877 he sold his farm in Highland Township, and moved to Plainview Village, where he lived until October, 1878. He then moved to Wheatland, Cass County, in Dakota Territory, and filed on two claims. In 1887, and again in 1889, he was elected to the territorial legislature, North Dakota becoming a state during his last term. In 1897, after the death of his wife, Ada, he returned to Plainviw, where in 1900 he married Lydia (Bly) Reed, of Ripon, Wis., daughter of George and Caroline M. Bly, and widow of Hiram B. Reed. They resided in Plainview until 1911, when they went to Fargo, N. D., and took up their residence with Captain Burnham's daughter, Mrs. Joseph Matters, at whose home he died January 5, 1912. Captain Burnham was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati and of the Minnesota Commandery of the Loyal Legion. He was for many years a member of the Congregational church. He was a distinguished law-maker of two states, a true builder of the Northwest, a man of distinguished attainmnts and powerful influence. In private life he was a devoted husband, a kind father, and respected by all who knew him. By his first wife, Mrs. Ada J. Burnham, he had four children: Lizzie, wife of Joseph Matters, of Fargo, N. D.; Benjamin L., of Wheatland, N. D.; Ida M., wife of William Hunter, of Moscow, Ida.; and Ella J., of Moscow, Ida.

**William Burnham** was born at Derry, New Hampshire, March 31, 1832, son of George and Eliza Ann (McNiel) Burnham. In 1856 he came to Minnesota with his brother, John W., and took up a quarter section of land in section 33, Highland, bordering Plainview Township. Later, when his brother, George H., followed and had bought the homestead adjoining, the two brothers carried on the work together. With his brother, William, he spent the greater part of his life until his death, February 21, 1911. At that time the newspapers said of him: "As an early settler he was always interested in the people and events of the vicinity. He was possessed of a remarkable memory and never forgot any person or any incident that touched his life. He had a high sense of honor and moral right, and those who knew him will always remember him as a good and upright man. The keynote of his life is well summed up in the words of his favorite hymn:

" 'Change and chance are busy ever,  
Man decays and ages move,  
But his mercy waneth never;  
God is mercy, God is love.' "

**George Henry Burnham**, a worthy pioneer, was born at Derry, Rockingham County, N. H., May 20, 1837, son of George and Eliza Ann McNiel Burnham, the father being of English descent and the mother of Scotch-Irish blood. He was seventh in direct descent from Den John Burnham, the founder of the family in this country who came from Norwich, Norfolk County, England, early in 1835 and settled at Ipswich, Mass.; and fifth in direct descent from Major John Burnham, one of the original members of the Society of the Cincinnati, who served from the Battle of Bunker Hill until the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, as an officer in the Revolutionary War. The subject of this sketch received a good education in his native village, having the advantages of a course at the Barre Academy. In 1857 he came to Wabasha County, following his brothers, John W. and William, who had come the year before. He secured a preemption of 160 acres in Highland Township, but two years later returned to the East with his brother William. A short time afterward, however, he again came to Minnesota, and took a claim in section 17, Highland, where he erected a cabin, and underwent all the rigorous experiences of pioneer life. To this cabin, in 1863, he brought his bride. A few years later they moved to section 33, a mile west of their former home, and on this he spent the remainder of his life. From a wild tract of land with primitive buildings, he developed it into a fertile, profitable estate, well cultivated and well equipped, and beautified with a substantial set of farm buildings. After a long



and useful life, Mr. Burnham died May 13, 1911, and his death was sincerely mourned. Of hardy lineage, Mr. Burnham was a man endowed with marked strength and ability. He was gifted by nature with a bright and vigorous intellect. His attainments surpassed those of many who possessed the advantages of long and intense training in the institutions of higher learning. This was due to his wide reading and keen observation, his readiness to seize opportunities for improvement, and his natural turn of mind, which was accurate, discriminating and logical. He always sought after those things which were of real value and worth-while. His judgment of right was almost instinctive, and he strove to instill into the minds of his children the highest principles of truth, honesty, and uprightness which he himself possessed to a high degree. But not only was he devoted to his family and home, for his interests and sympathy extended to the whole community and especially to those in need. He never refused an appeal for help, even when the rendering of succor meant a sacrifice of his own comfort and ease. His fine reserved nature led him from the seeking of prominence, and his life was consequently somewhat secluded. His desire was not so much for outward seeming as it was for sincerity and truth, and he was a man in the fullest meaning of the word. The world is better that such as he has lived. Mr. Burnham was married March 3, 1863, to Mary E. Gaylord, born at Ganessville, N. Y., daughter of Elijah and Huldah (Alvord) Gaylord. This union was blessed with ten children: George M., Frank A. and Fred G. (twins), Dottie, William H., Mary E., Margaret L., John S., Charles A., and Elsie I. George M. was born August 17, 1864, married Carrie B. Hurd January 6, 1892, and lives in Rochester, Minn. Frank A. and Fred G. were born May 24, 1868. Fred G. died June 1, 1868. Frank A. married Clara Hunis October 5, 1907, and lives in Chelan, Wash. Dottie was born March 12, 1870, and died August 19, 1870. William H. was born July 19, 1871, was married October 5, 1909, to Bessie Zeisinger, and died June 27, 1918. Mary E. was born July 4, 1874, was married October 15, 1907, to Edward B. Skinner, and lives in Sioux Falls, S. D. Margaret L. was born April 4, 1876, and was married June 23, 1897, to J. Henry Eggers, of Plainview (Everett B. Eggers, June 26, 1904). John S. was born November 25, 1878, was married March 10, 1906, to Clara Knode, and lives at Pendleton, Ore. Charles A. Burnham was born November 1, 1880, at Plainview, Minn. Elsie I. was born December 8, 1882, and is now general secretary of the Y. W. C. A. at Rochester.

**Richard Lea**, an early settler in Plainview Township, where he developed a good farm from the wilderness, was born in England, March 17, 1830. He was twice married, and by his first wife, Melita, had four children: Frank, Wentworth, Eliza and Eva. She died in 1858, and in 1860 he was married secondly at Hainesville, Ill., to Louisa Bryant, who was born in New York state, September 28, 1837. In the spring of the same year, soon after their marriage, they came to Wabasha County, Minn., Mr. Lea buying 80 acres of land from Caleb Sylvester in section 35, Plainview Township. Later he bought 80 acres of school land in section 36. All of this land was wild and timbered and he grubbed and cleared it, also erecting a house and out-buildings. In addition to this, he put up a saw mill, which for a number of years was well patronized. After a useful, and for the most part, an active career of some 40 years in the township, he died November 13, 1901. His second wife survived him some eight years or more, dying at the Winona General Hospital, July 3, 1910. The children of the second union were William T., now a resident of Plainview Village; Harry, who died in infancy; and Walter, who was accidentally killed in the saw mill on the home farm at the age of 24 years.

**William T. Lea**, now living retired in the Village of Plainview, where he is one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens, was until recently one of the active and successful farmers of Plainview Township, where he was born, November 20, 1861, son of Richard and Lodica (Bryant) Lea. He was educated in the Woodland District of that township, and was subsequently



engaged in farming on the parental homestead until 21 years old. In 1882 he went to North Dakota, where he followed farming and threshing for five years. On his return home in 1887 he took charge of his parents' farm, which he later bought, and on which he made many improvements, clearing the uncultivated portion of the land, putting up fences, rebuilding the house, and improving or remodeling the other buildings, and, altogether getting the place into excellent condition. There he followed general stock and grain farming, raising blooded Poland-China and O. I. C. Chester-White swine, and good grades of other stock. In 1896 he bought of John Beiter 80 acres more land adjoining the home farm, it being located in section 36; but later he sold 80 acres of the original farm, which left him with 160 acres. In the fall of 1919 Mr. Lea retired, selling the farm and moving to Plainview, where he has erected a neat and comfortable residence on High street. Here he and his wife are spending the afternoon of life, surrounded by their children and friends, and in the enjoyment of a well earned competence. Aside from his activities as a farmer and stockraiser, in which he gained a high reputation, Mr. Lea was for ten years a director of the Greenwood Farmers Insurance Company, and also helped to build the telephone line, being president of that company for some time. For twelve years also he rendered efficient service on the school board of his district, and showed himself a public-spirited citizen in all things concerning the general welfare and progress of the community in which he lived. Mr. Lea was married at Elgin, Minn., April 20, 1890, to Lena Haessig, who was born at Woodland, Plainview Township, December 11, 1869, daughter of Jacob and Emma J. (Cook) Haessig. The father, a native of Alsace, France, came to Wabasha County in 1863, and was here married to Emma J. Cook in March, 1869. She was born in Quebec, Canada, and had come to this county in 1857. They were engaged in farming until 1904, when they retired to Plainview, where Mr. Haessig is now living with his daughter, Ida. Mrs. Haessig died July 15, 1908. Their children were Lena, Lafayette, Ida and Merritt, the last mentioned of whom is now deceased. Lena Haessig, now Mrs. Lea, was educated in the Woodland District school and the Plainview high school, and was a teacher for two years in Winona and Wabasha counties. Her mother was first married to Franklin Sylvester, by whom she had three children: Jennie, now deceased, and Arthur and Belle, who are living. Mr. Sylvester died in 1863. To Mr. and Mrs. William T. Lea four children have been born: Verna M., June 19, 1891; Bonnie E., November 16, 1896; Walter H., December 17, 1900, and Harold, November 21, 1907. Verna M. is now Mrs. Lester Schwartz of Rochester, Minn. Bonnie E. is the wife of A. C. Linde, a farmer of Woodland, Plainview Township. Walter H. is a student in the Plainview high school. Mr. and Mrs. Lea are both members of the Old Settlers' Association. They attend worship at the Congregational church, and politically Mr. Lea is a Democrat. For many years they have been closely connected with the business or social life of Wabasha County, of which they are in the best sense representative people.

**Arthur S. Kennedy**, assistant cashier of the Plainview State Bank, and a business man of recognized ability, was born in Freeborn County, Minn., January 3, 1880, son of James and Helen (Stewart) Kennedy. The father, a native of Iowa, and mother, of Canada, were married in Minnesota. In early life, James Kennedy was engaged in the meat business at Rochester, but later went to Fillmore County, where, until 1880, he followed agriculture. He then moved to Olmsted County, where he farmed until 1902, the year of his retirement, when he took up his residence in Rochester. He was not long spared to enjoy the fruits of his labor, as his death occurred in the following year. His wife died in February, 1909. Their children were Julia, Frank, Ellen, George, Emma, Arthur S., John, Margaret, and Louis, all of whom are now living but Margaret. Arthur S. Kennedy acquired his elementary education in District School No. 103, Olmsted County, which was supplemented by a commercial



course in the Sisters' Academy at Rochester. He then entered the employ of E. A. Knowlton, dry goods merchant at Rochester, as bookkeeper, starting in April, 1902, and remaining with the firm until 1908, when he resigned to accept a position as bookkeeper for the Plainview State Bank. As such he remained subsequently until 1911, when he was tendered the assistant cashiership, a position which he still holds and has filled acceptably both to the bank and to its patrons. He is president of the Plainview Commercial Club, and secretary of the Wabasha County Fair Association, in which latter position he has served since 1914. A member of the Catholic church, he also belongs to the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Kennedy was married November 24, 1909, to Anna Fassbinder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fassbinder, of Waseca, Minn., and who previous to her marriage was clerk in the E. A. Knowlton dry goods establishment at Rochester. This union has been blessed by the birth of two children: Barbara M., born December 5, 1911; and Maxine H., whose birth was September 11, 1913.

**James Lahey**, for some 35 years the best known railroad man in this part of the state, came to Plainview in 1879, the year after the Plainview branch was built, and here remained the rest of his life. He was in the employ of the Chicago & North Western Railroad for the period mentioned, and then retired, continuing, however, on the roll of the company's pensioners. He was a man of fine qualities, of a most amiable and kindly disposition, one who had a pleasant word for all, took a deep interest in all public affairs, and experienced great delight in any advancement and progress of the community. He was loved by his friends and relatives, and highly esteemed by his neighbors and friends, as well as sincerely liked by the traveling public. He died June 20, 1920. James Lahey was born at Ancaster, Ontario, Canada, May 15, 1842, and was there married. In 1863 he moved to Lockport, N. Y.; from there in 1871 he came to Minnesota, and after living a while in Rochester took up his home in Plainview in 1879, as noted. James Lahey and Hannah Riordan were married at Dundas, Ontario, Canada, in 1863, and this union was blessed with ten children, of whom two died in infancy. Margaret is the wife of Benjamin Fay, of St. Charles; Thomas lives in Winona; John lives in St. Charles; James and Bernard live in Mitchell, S. D.; Theresa is the wife of John W. Keough, of Plainview. Agnes and Mary live in Plainview.

**John E. Keough**, manager of the O. M. Botsford Lumber Co. yard at Plainview, is a native of this county, having been born in Oakwood Township, March 28, 1881, son of John and Ellen (Hollihan) Keough. He attended the district schools of his neighborhood, the public schools of Millville, and the high school of Plainview. For a number of years he remained on the home farm, and then entered the employ of Burchard & Laack, afterward Burchard & Reiter, drugs and groceries. September 1, 1905, he started his present career by assuming the duties of assistant manager for the Laird-Norton yard, at Plainview. His work in this capacity won him excellent commendation, and in March, 1906, he was sent to Redwood County, this state, to take charge of the Laird-Norton yard at Walnut Grove. There he still further demonstrated his efficiency to such an extent that in June, 1911, he was sent back to Plainview as manager of the yard here. In 1913, when the O. M. Botsford Lumber Co. took over the interests of the Laird-Norton yards, he was retained as manager, and in that position has since remained, giving satisfaction to his company and to the general public. Mr. Keough has taken an active part in the affairs of the county and of the community. He has been president of the Wabasha County Industrial Fair Association for three years and is now a director. He is also an enthusiastic member of the Commercial Club. His fraternal associations are with the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Keough was married June 17, 1909, to Theresa Lahey, who was born in Plainview, August 28, 1881, daughter of James and Hannah (Riordan) Lahey, and this union has been blessed with one son, John Carlin, born August 3, 1916.



**Eben Hurd**, who in former years was actively engaged as a farmer in Watopa and Plainview townships, successively, but is now deceased, was a native of New England, having been born in the state of Maine, March 1, 1841. He married Hattie Stillings, who was born in the same state, August 6, 1847. In 1867 they came west to Wabasha County, Minn., and bought 80 acres of wild land in Watopa Township, which Mr. Hurd broke, cleared and cultivated, and on which he and his family resided for several years, at the end of that time removing to a farm of 160 acres in the vicinity. Their new place was partly improved, and Mr. Hurd subsequently carried the improvements to a high point, building up a fine farm. Later he bought 50 acres more of adjoining land. That place continued to be the home of the family until 1903, in which year they rented it out to a tenant and bought and moved to what was known as the Pickett farm in Plainview Township. After an active career of five years more on the last mentioned place, Eben Hurd passed away in June, 1908. His wife survived him until March 14, 1914. They had two children: George E., born October 23, 1863; and Carrie Belle, born March 22, 1872. The latter is now the wife of George Burnham, of Olmsted County.

**George E. Hurd**, now living retired in the Village of Plainview after an active career of many years as a farmer, was born in Burnett, Me., October 23, 1863, son of Eben and Hattie (Stillings) Hurd. He was a child of but two or three years when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., and his education was acquired here in the district schools. Brought up on the farm, he early became useful to his father, while he ultimately worked in partnership, and after the father's death in 1908 he continued to operate the place until the death of the mother, in March, 1914, at which time he retired from active work and took up his residence in Plainview. During his active career he followed diversified farming, and being a good, practical agriculturist, the place thrived under his hands and proved profitable. Mr. Hurd was united in the bonds of matrimony April 14, 1909, to Lena Moldenhaur, who was born in Woodland Township, April 24, 1885, daughter of August and Amelia (Klaveter) Moldenhaur. Her parents were natives of Germany who settled in Olmsted County, where they engaged in farming, and where Mr. Moldenhaur died July 8, 1911. He was survived by his wife, who is still living on the farm. Their children were Minnie, Emma, Lena, Ida, and Ervin, all of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Hurd are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have a large acquaintance in Plainview and the surrounding country, and belong to that class of people in the village whom it is a pleasure to meet.

**Robert R. Jacobs**, proprietor of the White Front restaurant and ice cream parlor, the leading establishment of its kind in Plainview, was born in Germany, October 17, 1874, son of William and Wilhelmina (Dettbaren) Jacobs. The parents, who came to the United States in 1890, engaged in farming in New Hartford Township, Winona County, Minn., where the father died in 1904. The mother is still living on the old home farm. Robert R. Jacobs acquired his elementary schooling in his native land, and also for a few months attended an English school after coming to this country. He remained on the home farm until 1908, in which year he bought a farm in Dakota Valley, Winona County. This he conducted for two years, at the end of that time selling out and moving to Wabasha, where he engaged in the restaurant business. After six months, however, he had to give it up on account of his wife's illness, but soon after purchased the hotel at Kellogg, which he conducted until 1912. He then sold the hotel and coming to Plainview purchased his present restaurant and ice cream parlors. In this business he has been entirely successful. The place is conducted on a modern and sanitary basis, everything being neat and clean, and the food homecooked. In connection with that part of the business already mentioned, he handles a full line of pipes, cigars, cigarettes, tobacco and confectionery, and is in the enjoyment of a large patronage. In December, 1912, Mr. Jacobs bought the building which he occupies for business purposes, and



also a good, modern residence adjoining it on the west. His business block is a frame structure of two stories and basement, and presents a neat and well-kept appearance. Enterprising and far-sighted, he has taken his place among the successful men of the village, and is respected as a useful and progressive citizen. His religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church. Mr. Jacobs was married in October, 1902, to Emma Rellig, who was born at La Crosse, Wis. He and his wife have been the parents of three children: Paul, born June 20, 1903, who is a student in the Plainview high school, and in his spare time assists his father in the business; and Emil and Adolph, who both died in infancy.

Warner Whitney Freer, one of those sturdy pioneers who found their way to the Upper Mississippi region in the early days and settled on that rich stretch of land now known as Greenwood Prairie, was a familiar figure throughout this region for some six decades, and took his full share in its growth and development. A man of broad and tolerant views and of genuine goodness of character, he was a friend beloved by all. His always pleasant and genial disposition, with kind words for all, endeared him to all, young and old alike, and his presence was always an inspiration. He was held in high regard by three generations and his life was a part of the community's history. Warner W. Whitney was born on a farm in Seneca County, N. Y., June 17, 1828, the son of William and Mabel (Whitney) Freer, and descended from substantial stock on both sides of the house. As a boy he moved with his parents to Trumbull County, Ohio, and there he was reared to manhood, and married. In 1856 they determined to come to Wabasha County, and locate on Greenwood Prairie, where several friends had preceded them. Crossing the state of Illinois by rail, they reached Galena, and there boarded the old "War Eagle" for the trip up the Mississippi. They disembarked at Winona for a few hours, and then continued up the river to Wabasha, where they landed their goods. From there they made the trip to Greenwood Prairie by ox team. Arriving here, they began, under the most primitive circumstances, to establish their home, enduring many hardships, but meeting all discouragements with staunch hearts and undaunted faith and fortitude. After the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Battery, Light Artillery, with which organization he first went to Ft. Snelling and then to Memphis, Tenn., where he remained for some two years. After his discharge he returned to Greenwood Prairie, and for several years continued to develop his farm. In 1869 he moved to Plainview, and here established the first dray line. His one-horse dray, drawn by a handsome sorrel mare, with the proprietor himself calling greetings to farmers and villagers alike, and smiling indulgently on the small boys who sought free rides, constituted a sight which was a part of the daily life of Plainview, and one that will be long remembered. In 1900 he retired. The afternoon years of his life were spent with his son, J. W. Freer, of Winona, and his daughter, Mrs. G. E. Crossman, of Wessington, S. D. He died at the home of the latter November 25, 1917, and is laid at rest in Plainview, among his old associates. Mr. Freer was married at Warren, Ohio, December 8, 1853, to Lucy Maria Bowen, of that place. This union was blessed with seven children: Jennie, wife of George E. Crossman, of Wessington, S. D.; Effie, wife of Henry D. Wedge, of Plainview; J. W., of Winona; May, wife of E. G. Dodge, of Santa Barbara, Calif.; Grace, wife of G. W. Smith, of St. Paul; Hortense, wife of W. J. Thompson, of Orting, Wash.; and Jeanette, who died at 18 years of age. Mrs. Freer died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Crossman, in Wessington, S. D., six weeks after her husband, by whose side she is laid to rest.

Henry D. Wedge, for many years one of the leading agriculturists of Greenwood Prairie, was a man whose life is inseparably woven into the warp and woof of the story of the material progress of the southern part of Wabasha County. Descended from sturdy stock, possessed of an excellent education, and endowed with a capacity for hard work coupled with a full measure of good





MR. AND MRS. HENRY D. WEDGE







judgment and shrewdness, he easily took a commanding position among his fellow men, and richly deserved the full measure of success that fell to his lot. Agricultural pursuits were to him a labor of love as well as a means of livelihood, he loved his broad acres, he gave understanding care to his stock, he took delight in growing things, his home was his pride, and the streams and forests, with their fish and wild life had for him a never diminishing attraction. He was rich in friendships and in the respect of his associates, and his loss to the community was one that will not readily be filled. Henry Dwight Wedge was born in Warren, Litchfield County, Conn., June 21, 1839, a son of Horatio and Lovisa (Smalley) Wedge. He was but five years of age when his parents came to Wisconsin, locating in the Town of Chester, in Dodge County. There he was reared to agricultural pursuits. After passing through the rural schools, he took advanced courses in the Waupon high school, thus preparing himself for the occupation of teacher which he followed successfully for several terms. Soon after reaching his majority he spent several years in Missouri. In the meantime his father had acquired considerable land on Greenwood Prairie, in this county. Upon a portion of this land, in section 19, Plainview Township, Mr. Wedge took up his permanent home in 1861. Here he lived and labored and wrought for many years, acquiring in time 700 acres of some of the best land on the Prairie. In 1879 he erected a beautiful brick residence, which has since remained as one of the landmarks of the township. In 1892 after a worthy life of hard work, he retired from the more arduous duties of farm labor, and moved to the City of Plainview, there to spend the afternoon of life surrounded by the comforts which his decades of strenuous effort so richly deserved. Here he was able to indulge to the full his enjoyment of the companionship of friends and his love for the out of doors, spending much of his time in the open amid the scenes of nature which he loved so well. He died May 12, 1918, and his death was sincerely mourned as a distinct loss to the community. In public, as well as in private life, he had done his full duty as a man and as a citizen. For many years he had given freely of his time and ability as a public official of the township, and in the session of 1879 he did good service to the state as a member of the Minnesota Legislature. He had also served on numerous delegations and committees, and throughout his life here stood for everything that was for intelligent progress and the public welfare. Mr. Wedge was married January 23, 1863, to Helen L. Loveland, daughter of C. L. Loveland, of Dodge County, Wis. Of the children of this union, there are now living, three: Eugene, Herbert and Minnie. Eugene lives in Plainview; Herbert lives in Wessington, S. D.; and Minnie is the wife of M. E. Callender, of Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Helen L. Wedge died April 20, 1892. March 11, 1894, Mr. Wedge married Mrs. Effie (Freer) Hibner, who was born at Plainview, June 21, 1857, daughter of Warner Whitney and Lucy Maria (Bowman) Freer. She makes her home in the family residence in Plainview. Mr. Wedge was a Past Master of the Masonic lodge and was buried with the rites of that body.

A. C. Woodcock, head of the firm of A. C. Woodcock & Son, of Plainview, engaged in two important lines of business as dealers in seeds and oil, was born in the Town of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., February 7, 1863, son of C. F. and Ruth (Burton) Woodcock. The parents spent their lives as farmers in New York State. The father, born in Morristown, in February, 1833, died in September, 1914. The mother, who was born in the Town of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in August, 1843, died in June, 1918. A. C. Woodcock was educated in the public schools of his native town, and was trained to agriculture on the parental homestead, where he grew to manhood. He remained with his parents until 26 years of age, coming west in January, 1889, and first locating in Michigan. However, his stay there was brief, as in April the same year he made his appearance in Plainview, Wabasha County. Here he found employment for six months at farm labor, but having ambitions



in the direction of a business career apart from agriculture, he accepted a position in the Hotel Plainview, and was there employed for about two years. He then bought a dray business in Plainview, which he sold out three years later to engage in the grocery and clothing business with H. K. Oliverson for six years, then in the farm machinery business, which he followed for two seasons. Always on the lookout for better opportunities, he next became a contractor for cement walks and walls, and in that line conducted a successful business for 15 years, during which period, and for two years longer, he also followed truck farming on an 18-acre tract that he had purchased within the village limits. In this connection it is worthy of note that one man, Henry Sexton, has been in his employ continuously for that length of time and is still with him. In 1915 Mr. Woodcock purchased the Burchard seed business and warehouse, and at that time took into partnership his son, Warren F., who has since been a member of the firm, A. C. Woodcock & Son. In the fall of 1918 they purchased a 30-acre tract, a part of the J. J. Butts property, within the corporation limits, and this land is now used by them for truck farming. A later addition to their interests is the oil business, into which they entered September 6, 1919, purchasing a full equipment, including a large team tank, and two auto-truck tanks for road purposes, and having storage tanks for 40,000 gallons of gasoline. In these several lines of industry the firm is prospering under wise and enterprising management, and has, to all appearances, a bright and promising future. For four years Mr. Woodcock was a member of the board of education of Plainview. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, has been a member of the Odd Fellows' order for 20 years, and also belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. Woodcock was married May 20, 1891, to Susie Wahler, daughter of Frederick B. and Wilhelmina (Neiheeser) Wahler, of Plainview, and who for nearly 29 years has been his faithful helpmate. They have one child, Warren F., who was born April 4, 1892. Graduated from the Plainview high school in the class of 1911, he entered Hamline University that fall, and was graduated therefrom in the class of 1915. As already mentioned he is now his father's partner in business. On June 10, 1915, he was married to Gale Lutz. Mr. Woodcock and his family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. They are people of high standing in Plainview and the vicinity, and have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

**Frederick B. Wahler**, a Minnesota pioneer now living in Plainview, is a man who has had an extensive experience along agricultural lines and as a developer of farm land, beginning in early days when practically all the land was wild and required years of hard labor to bring it into a fertile and productive condition. He was born in Saratoga, Germany, March 31, 1831, son of John F. Wahler, a farmer. His mother, whose maiden name was Dorothea Rohrbach, died when he was a few months old. In 1853 he accompanied his father to America, settling near Lomira, Dodge County, where they engaged in farming, and where the father died in 1883. Frederick B. Wahler came to Minnesota in 1856, at first locating in Winona County, where he remained seven years, working school lands near Centerville. In 1863 he came to Wabasha County and bought 160 acres in Plainview Township, remaining on the tract for two years making improvements, and following general farming. Then he sold the farm and removed to the village, but continued to make investments in farms and farm lands, operating them from the village, and owning at one time 420 acres. On three of the places thus purchased he made valuable improvements. In 1876 he gave up general agriculture and purchased a residence in the village, where he has since made his home. At the time of his retirement he owned 300 acres of fine arable land, but subsequently disposed of it, with the exception of six acres in town. His possessions were accumulated by hard work and his prosperity has been well earned. For one year Mr. Wahler formerly served as supervisor, and for 18 years was road master. He was married, July 6, 1856, at Lomira, Wis., to Wilhelmina Neiheeser, who was born in West-



phalen, Germany, in 1833. Their married life extended over a period of 57 years, or until her death on August 18, 1913, and was marked by joys and sorrows, but with a predominant note of happiness. In 1906 they celebrated their Golden Wedding, which was the happy occasion for a large home gathering, 20 relatives from Wisconsin being present, besides others. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Wahler were as follows: Adeline, May 19, 1857; Henry, October 3, 1860; Susie, June 15, 1863; and Inez R., September 29, 1874. Adeline married Henry Staddon, of Minneapolis, who is now deceased. She has one child, Harry, who is a grain buyer for several large mills. Henry died at the age of three years, October 14, 1863. Susie is now the wife of A. C. Woodcock, of Plainview, and has one son, Warren F., born April 4, 1892. Inez R. is the wife of Dr. L. C. Stocking, of St. Louis, and has two daughters, Mildred and Lois. Mr. Wahler is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Clarence L. Waterman, who after varied experiences and extensive travel, is now conducting a profitable truck farming business at Plainview, was born at Orange, Vt., July 19, 1862, son of Newell and Sylvia (Melendy) Waterman. Both parents were natives of Vermont, in which state they followed agriculture during their entire active period. The father died in 1888, and the mother in July, 1918. Clarence L. was educated in district and select schools, in the latter taking a commercial course. After attaining his majority in 1883, he left home and coming west to Wabasha County, Minnesota, located in Plainview, where for one year he was employed as clerk in the Lawton Bros.' grocery store. He then returned to Vermont and remained there a year, after which he spent one year in New Mexico. His next move was to return to Plainview, where he secured a position in the Plainview hotel and was thus occupied for two years. Then he again went to Vermont, where he was present at his father's death, and subsequently farmed there from the spring of 1888 to 1891. North Dakota now attracted him, and there he spent some years, the first two as second man in an elevator, then becoming grain buyer at Merrifield, that state, afterwards spending one year for the Brooks Bros. in their elevator. Subsequently he worked a year for the Duluth Elevator Co., after which he came back again to Plainview. Here for five years he conducted a lunch room and pool hall, which he then sold, buying a farm of 160 acres, the northeast quarter of section 22, Plainview Township. Two years later he sold that farm and again went to Vermont, where he spent one year. Then he returned to Minnesota, and for one season was employed as grain buyer for a firm at Kennedy. In 1907 he once more appeared in Plainview, on which occasion he purchased his present farm of 13 acres within the village limits, where he has since been profitably engaged in the truck raising industry, his principal crops being cabbages, onions and potatoes. He has now established himself as one of the permanent residents of the village, of which he is a prominent citizen, and for five years he was a member of the village council. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, including Illustrious Lodge No. 63; Winona Consistory No. 4; Asmo Temple, M. S., at St. Paul; also with the Odd Fellows, Independent Order of Foresters and the Yeomen, while he and his wife are both members of the Eastern Star Chapter. Mr. Waterman was married March 2, 1908, to Jennie L. Hanson Seaver, who was born in Corinth, Orange County, Vt., November 28, 1871, daughter of Benjamin M. and Rebecca M. (Lucas) Hanson. The father was a native of Lowell, Mass., and the mother of Corinth, Vt., in which latter state they were prominent farmers. Both are now deceased, the father having passed away in August, 1890, and the mother in March, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Waterman have no children of their own, but have an adopted son, Howard C. Dick, who was born March 22, 1899, and whom they have reared and educated. He served in the world war from February 22, 1918, to May 17, 1919, being a member of the Eighth Balloon Company, First Army, A. E. F., and was at the front from August, 1918, until the signing of the armistice, November 11, that year.



**Walter H. Whitcomb, D. V. S.**, who has been successfully engaged in veterinary practice in Plainview for the last 17 years, was born in Rochester, Olmsted County, Minn., August 28, 1879, son of Edward and Sophia (Harris) Whitcomb. The parents were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New York State, the father being a brick manufacturer by occupation. In the early sixties they settled in Rochester, Minn., where Edward Whitcomb established a large brick plant, for many years furnishing brick for the erection of most of the business blocks and public buildings, besides some of the residences, in Rochester and the vicinity. This business he carried on until his death in 1910. His wife is still living in Rochester. Walter H. Whitcomb was educated in the public schools of Rochester and at Darling's Business College there. In 1900 he entered the medical department of the Cottner University at Lincoln, Neb., where he studied medicine for one year. Then in 1901 he entered the Western Veterinary College at Kansas City, and after a course of two years was graduated in 1903. In the same year he came to Plainview and entered on the practice of his profession, and since then has built up a large patronage, and a fine reputation as a first class veterinary surgeon, having a competent knowledge of his profession in all its branches, and a complete equipment. In 1910 he built his hospital, which is scientifically arranged and provided with all necessary instruments for the treatment of animal disorders; and in 1914 he erected a fine residence on Jefferson street, where he has since made his home with his family. He is past master in Illustrious Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Plainview, and a member of the Consistory at Winona, and the Mystic Shrine at St. Paul. Dr. Whitcomb was married June 26, 1907, to Ida M. Nunaamaker, who was born in Plainview, Minn. The issue of this union are two children: Beatrice, born February 21, 1908, and Thomas, born March 31, 1909.

**Lyman Washburn**, a pioneer of Plainview Township, long since passed away, was a native of Jefferson County, N. Y., born May 9, 1820. He married Esther Amaret Doan, who was born in the same county May 15, 1820. Emigrating to the Northwest, they made their home for a while in Dodge County, Wis. In 1855 they set out for Wabasha County, Minn., with six children under 14 years of age, traveling with an ox-team, ferrying the Mississippi river at La Crescent, and arriving in the county June 14 as members of a party, some of whom did not remain here. Those who did were Zack Williams, Ben Pickett, Mr. Miner, with his family, and the Washburns. Mr. Washburn took the southwest quarter of section 3, Plainview Township, preempting the land. After he had proved up the property he found that it was on the Half Breed Tract, and in order not to lose it, he had to buy scrip. He had not been long in the new country, when, needing flour, he took his ox-team and wagon, and went across the prairie, through valleys, fording streams, and surveying his own route to Winona. He was gone four days and brought back two barrels of flour, for which he gave \$20 a barrel; also other supplies. His route became practically the same valley road used today. One of Mr. Washburn's first tasks was to build a house, for which he used hewed rafters and hand-shaved shingles, which he himself prepared. He was not long permitted to enjoy the fruits of his labor, as in September, 1859, he was called away by death, leaving his wife and seven children, the eldest of whom, Gardner Selden, was then 17 years old. Mrs. Washburn continued to reside on the farm until 1889, when she moved to Plainview. There she subsequently died in her eighty-sixth year. Their children were: Gardner Selden, who died in 1889; Esther A. (Mrs. T. Parr), who died in 1883; Helena C. (Mrs. E. L. Burtin), of Dodge Center; H. T. Washburn, of South Dakota; F. D. Washburn, of Plainview, Minn., and James B. Washburn, who went to Wagon Mound, N. M., and died in 1919.

**Frank D. Washburn**, president of the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie from 1894 to 1897, and from 1910 to 1920 inclusive, was born in Elba, Dodge County, Wis., January 17, 1853, son of Lyman and Esther Amaret (Doan) Washburn. In June, 1855, at the age of two years he accompanied his





MR. AND MRS. FRANK D. WASHBURN













MR. AND MRS. FRANKLIN A. WELLS



parents to Wabasha County, Minn., the journey being made by ox-team, and for a number of years thereafter his life was spent on their farm in section 3, Plainview Township. As a boy he attended the district school whenever he had opportunity, but his hours of work were longer than those of study, and if he never reached the classics, he at least acquired a very good knowledge of the practical part of farming. After remaining on the home farm until 1878 he moved to Renville County, this state, and for four years operated a rented farm there. Then returning to Wabasha County he rented a farm here which he operated for an equal length of time. After that he bought the old home farm from his brother's widow, 40 acres of which had been lost on a \$50 mortgage given to pay expenses of the illness and burial of his father, and this he bought back in 1893 for \$2000, again completing the quarter. He continued to operate and develop the farm until 1907, when he rented it to other parties, and though no longer engaged in general agriculture, he now follows truck farming to some extent. His fraternal affiliations are with Illustrious Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and with the I. O. O. F. Mr. Washburn was married June 30, 1882, to Lillian Josephine Welles, who was born at Manlius, Onondaga County, N. Y., May 14, 1859, daughter of Franklin Adams and Sarah Elizabeth (Alexander) Welles. The only child of this union is Dwight Welles, who was born April 19, 1886, and is now engaged in truck farming. He married Leoma G. Verhaag, and has three children, Franklin Jacob, Faith Mary and Gladys Elizabeth. Mrs. Washburn, who was formerly a teacher in the schools of the town and county, is active in social life, being a member of the Travelers' Club, the Ladies' Circle, the W. C. T. U., and the D. A. R. She was born in Pompey, Onondaga County, N. Y., May 14, 1859. Her widowed mother has a place in the home. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Franklin Adams Welles**, an early settler in Wabasha County, and who contributed to its early agricultural development, was born in Pompey, Onondaga County, N. Y., December 3, 1832. His parents, Russell and Sophronia Welles, were descendants of the early pioneers of this country. The first member of the family in America was Sir Thomas Welles, of England, who arrived at Saybrook, Conn., under commission from the royal family, and by the king of England was appointed colonial governor of Connecticut, being one of its first governors. His great grandfather on the mother's side was a captain in the War of the Revolution. He received an excellent education at Pompey Hill Academy, after which he spent several years as a teacher in the village schools of his native state, holding a life state certificate for the work. He first visited St. Paul and other western places in 1854, and after moving west he taught with marked success in the schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota. He married Sarah E. Alexander, December 23, 1856, who was also a native of New York, having been born in Fabius, Onondaga County, March 6, 1834. In 1861 they moved to Sparta, Wis. Three years later, in 1863, they came to Wabasha County, arriving in midwinter with three children under five years of age, and located on a purchased farm of 160 acres, section 39, township of Highland. Later they sold this place and bought 106 acres in the township of Plainview, one and a half miles northeast of the village of the same name. There they resided until 1893, when, under President Cleveland's first administration, he was appointed postmaster of Plainview, being reappointed for the second term of Cleveland's administration, he moved his family into town and built him a home there. A man highly esteemed and respected, he served a number of years as justice of the peace, and identified himself with the life and interests of Plainview politically and socially for many years. He was one of the earliest Masonic residents of the county and was instrumental in the establishment of a Masonic lodge in the town, naming it Illustrious Lodge No. 63, after Illustrious Remington, master of the lodge in Syracuse, N. Y., from whom he received the degrees of the order. Of the lodge in Plainview he was a charter member and



the first master. He was a thirty-second degree Mason and one of the very few Knights Templar west of the Mississippi river, when he came to Minnesota. In 1904 he was chosen a member of the Masonic Veteran Association of the state of Minnesota, an honor conferred only upon those who had experienced fifty years of active service as Masons. One of Plainview's foremost citizens of early days, he was a man of marked physical and mental activity, with a strong love for the beautiful in literature and nature, ever showing a kindly interest in the affairs of his friends—a genial, courteous, affectionate gentleman with a pleasing personality which made him most companionable. His death occurred November 18, 1907. His wife, who survived him, is now residing with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Washburn of Plainview, Minn. The children are: Lillian J. (Mrs. F. D. Washburn) of Plainview, Minn.; Florence A. (Mrs. W. F. Foster) of Minot, S. D.; Isabelle W. (Mrs. W. I. Gray) of Minneapolis, Minn.; Ada R. Welles (Daisy), deceased; and Maude A. Welles, of Minneapolis, Minn. Sarah E. Alexander was born in Fabius, Onondaga County, N. Y., March 16, 1834. She came of old Revolutionary stock, her great grandfather serving in the French and Indian wars, her grandfather in the War of the Revolution, and her father in the War of 1812.

**Henry Theodore Washburn**, who in former years carried on farming near Plainview, Wabasha County, but has long been a resident of Goodwin, S. D., where he is highly respected, was born at Columbus, Wis., April 3, 1851, son of Lyman Gardner and Esther (Doane) Washburn. The parents came from Wisconsin to Minnesota with their family and an ox team and wagon in the spring of 1855. The father was in poor health and two years later died, leaving his wife with seven children, the eldest, Selden, a lad of eighteen. Amid the hardships and discouragements of those early days the family struggled on to prosperity, led by the brave and energetic mother. Henry Theodore's education was obtained in a country school, which he had to leave early to help at home on the farm. However, he has never ceased to be a student, and from the perusal of the best books and magazines has obtained that higher education that schools alone, however good, could not afford. On May 30, 1877, he married Emma L. Crittendon of Dover, Minnesota, and settled on a farm of his own near Plainview. His wife's parents were William M. and Harriet (Alexander) Crittendon, and, like his own, were descended from the early Puritans. They came from Massachusetts to Wisconsin, and thence to Minnesota, at an early day. In the spring of 1881, Mr. Washburn removed with his family to Goodwin, S. D., and settled on the homestead, where he still resides. In his own words, he thus sums up his active career:

"I, Henry Theodore Washburn, came from that large and growing family of Massachusetts Washburns, and was born at Columbus, Columbia County, Wis., April 3, 1851. At four years of age I came with my family to Plainview, Minn., where I lived twenty-five years. From there I moved to Goodwin, Deuel County, S. D., where I have resided ever since. My father's name was Lyman Gardner Washburn and my mother's, Esther Amerette Doane. My education was common school—and very common. I am and always have been a farmer. For the past twenty years I have been farming about one thousand acres and have been raising many horses, cattle and hogs. I have held no offices except on boards of directors in business institutions. I am tied to no political party, voting sometimes with one and again with another. My religion is of no recognized variety. I was married to Emma Louisa Crittendon May 30, 1877, at Dover, Minn. My wife's father was William Howley Crittendon, and her mother, Harriett Newel Alexander. Seven children were born to us, two of whom died in infancy. Hattie Ruth was born April 21, 1878. She still lives with her parents and is a writer of some note. Emma Amerette was born September 4, 1880. She married Henry Sandland March 8, 1916, and now lives on a ranch near Selfridge, N. D. Selden Gardner was born March 22, 1883. He still lives with his parents and is a farmer and an expert mechanic of



widespread reputation. Marietta was born April 11, 1886. She married Charles Thomas November 15, 1911. They have four children: Theodore, Roy, Pearl and Wallace. They now live on a farm near Dysart, Iowa. Rose Alice was born April 27, 1894. She married Charles De Vine March 15, 1916. They have one child, Stanley. They live on a farm near Goodwin, S. D.

"I have remembrances of Plainview and vicinity that are interesting to me but that is no sign that they would be to others. When we settled on the old homestead there were no houses from Hall's little log hotel in St. Charles to Cook's Valley, a few miles out of Wabasha. St. Paul was a small Indian trading post and Minneapolis had not been heard of. Of one thing I feel sure and that is that Greenwood Prairie, as it was then called, was the most beautiful land, before it was touched by the hand of man, that my eyes have ever rested upon. With its beautiful island-like groves, its emerald green prairies and sparkling streams, it made a picture that has never been surpassed in the temperate climate, in my opinion. The early settlers in that country certainly 'burned their bridges behind them' when they came there. There was not much show of 'going back to live on the wife's folks,' when it had perhaps taken a month of hard struggle to get there with the slow moving ox teams. As I look back to those old days, I realize that those early settlers were sterling stuff. My father died three years after we came to the country, leaving my mother with seven children, the oldest eighteen. One would have to know the situation to realize the magnitude of her task. It was a slow, hard job to clear up and get it in a condition to raise crops, the land on our old homestead, as we were in what was termed, 'oak openings'—that is, trees too scattering to be termed groves. So at the time of my father's death we had but a small field under cultivation. We were in debt, too, as my father had died of a long and lingering illness. We had a very meager outfit of tools and stock and prices were low and markets far away. Did our mother sit back and complain of the hardness of her lot? She did not. But steadily, day after day, and year after year, she worked and slaved for us, apparently with no thought that she was doing anything out of the regular program. And on top of all her other burdens she helped take care of all sick for miles around. There were no trained nurses in those days and so the women of the neighborhood acted in that capacity and mother and Mrs. Bootman were noted far and wide as expert and willing, so they had frequent calls for their services—nor was there any thought of pay. She made straw hats for all the men in that part of the country, braiding them of oat straw, sewing and shaping them and making as good looking and a much better wearing hat than one can buy today. She made overalls and shirts for all the bachelors around, patched socks for O. Wilcox and did any other job that anyone wanted done. And she won out and raised all of us to be good citizens and we had as good an education as any of the children around us. One of the Bryants of Elgin used to frequently tell his boy about us, what a fine man our father was and what good boys we were, and he told it so many times that it made the boy sore. So one day Dr. Tefft was at Bryants and the old man was telling the boy all about it again, as we old men will, and it got too much for the boy and he said, 'Father, the difference between the Washburn boys and me is that their father died and mine didn't.'

"In those old days whiskey was a part of the daily fare. Every grocery store had a barrel of it in the back end of the building with a glass upturned on top of it and the regular customers were supposed to help themselves as they do to tobacco now days. At our place there was no whiskey jug nor would mother drink it or allow any of we children to, but most of the women did drink. A man by the name of Field used to live a mile north of us and one day as a neighbor was going by on his way to town, Field came out with a two-gallon jug for the neighbor to get filled with whiskey. He apologized for bothering him by saying, 'The old cow has gone dry and it takes a mort of whiskey to keep the family going.' Most of the men used to carry their whiskey in a flask



covered with wicker to keep it from getting broken. One day two neighbors, Crawford and Goss were on their way to the river market with wheat when they met another neighbor, who of course had a bottle with something in it. Of course he had to 'shoat' Crawford and Goss, as they used to say in those days. Orr got the flask first and long and earnestly studied the heavens while Goss stood by waiting his turn. At last Orr passed over the flask and Goss expectantly tipped it higher and higher till it stood straight up and still no gurgle came from its lips. At last Crawford said with a wink to the other man, 'Is there much in it, Mr. Goss?' I hear that expression used once in a while when I go back to Plainview though the incident happened sixty years ago."

**Joseph Eggers**, one of the early settlers of Wabasha County, now passed away, whose labors were productive of good results, both to himself and family and to the community in which he successively made his home, was a native of Germany, where he grew to manhood, and married Amelia Schrew. On their wedding day he and his bride started for America, and on landing in this country proceeded west to Iowa, where for about two years they both worked in a flour mill. Then they came to Minnesota, and several years later settled in Wabasha County, buying a claim of 160 acres in the township of Hyde Park. The land was wild and heavily timbered, none of it having been broken, so Mr. Eggers had a task before him requiring energy, patience and muscle. With all these he was well endowed, and with the able assistance of his wife, who was a willing worker, he cut the timber, erected a set of buildings and developed the land, they finally finding themselves the owners of a very good farm. In 1875 they bought a farm of 120 acres in Plainview Township. This latter place was already improved, so there was less strenuous work for them to do, and they resided on it until 1905, in which year they retired and became residents of Plainview Village. Here Mrs. Amelia Eggers died June 30, 1910. She was survived less than five years by her husband, who passed away in February, 1915. Of the nine children the two first born died in infancy. The others, in order of birth, were: John C., now of Rochester; Dora De Grief, of Forest Lake; Minnie, of Plainview; Emma, now Mrs. H. K. Oliverson, of Plainview; Mary, who became the wife of Ed Persons, and died in September, 1900; Henry H., a well known business man of Plainview, and George, who resides in Arkansasaw.

**Henry H. Eggers**, who is successfully engaged in the produce business in Plainview, was born at Hammond, Wabasha County, Minn., August 20, 1872, son of Joseph and Amelia (Schrew) Eggers. After leaving school he worked a number of years for Landon and Buchard. Then he followed the carpenter's trade for a few years. In 1902 he moved to Hyde Park Township, taking up farming for three years. In 1905 he returned to Plainview and managed the seed business for Mr. Buchard until 1915, when he opened his present produce business. He handles various kinds of produce, including poultry (live and dressed), eggs, cream, seeds and sand. He has become one of the prosperous merchants of the village, and for the last three years has been ably assisted by his wife, who attends to the books, besides assisting him in other branches of the business. They have just bought the building on the corner of Jefferson and Broadway, consisting of two stories and basement, which is entirely occupied by their rapidly growing business. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Eggers took place November 28, 1894, at Wabasha. Mrs. Eggers, whose name in maidenhood was Minnie Siercks, was born in Winona, Minn., December 24, 1876, daughter of Hans and Dorothy (Stark) Siercks. Her parents were natives of Germany who came to America young and were married in this country. Her father was a laboring man nearly all his life, but for ten years he farmed near Hammond, this county. He is still living, and in 1919 had attained the age of 84 years. His residence is with his daughter Emma, at Millville, his wife having died in 1888. Their children were: Bertha. (Mrs. John Eggers, of Rochester), Will, who died young, Otto, Emma, Anna, Minnie, Helen and Fred,









GEO. H. VERMILYA



the two last mentioned of whom are now deceased. Emma is the widow of Claus Schuchard. Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Eggers are the parents of four children: Helma D., born July 17, 1896, who is residing with her parents; Arnold S., born June 19, 1899, who after graduating from the Plainview high school in 1918, entered a school of engineering at Milwaukee; Harvey L., born January 14, 1905; and Thomas H., born January 24, 1912. The family are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Eggers is a Republican

**George H. Vermilya**, cashier of the First National Bank of Plainview, is a young business man and citizen of high reputation and wide personal popularity. He was born in Quincy Township, Olmsted County, Minn., December 5, 1893, son of J. I. and Mary A. (Hinton) Vermilya. The parents, who are of English birth, were married in Olmsted County, and for some time were engaged in agriculture in Quincy Township, where J. I. Vermilya still resides. He is president of the First National Bank of Plainview. George H. Vermilya acquired his elementary education in the district school and was graduated from the Plainview high school in the class of 1910. His next four years were spent on the home farm engaged in agriculture, after which he became a student at Hamline University. In August, 1915, he came to Plainview as assistant cashier of the First National Bank, and served in that position until January 13, 1920, when he was elected cashier. He has demonstrated his business ability to the satisfaction of the management and the patrons of the bank, which is a flourishing institution, and his future career is already well marked out along the lines of progress and success. He is a stockholder in the bank and in prosperous circumstances. Fraternally he is affiliated with Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M., and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has closely identified himself with the best interests of the community in which he lives and is known to all as a good and reliable citizen. Mr. Vermilya was married October 25, 1916, to Leone Davis, who was born in Plainview, Minn., September 15, 1896. Their home has been enlarged and brightened by the birth of one child, Shirley Jean, on October 30, 1917. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Congregational church.

**Horatio Wedge** was born in Litchfield County, Conn., September 26, 1818, son of Silas Wedge, and grandson of Isaac Wedge, a veteran of the Revolutionary War. As a young man, he taught school during the winter terms, and in the open season worked as a charcoal burner. He came to Waterford, Racine County, Wis., in 1884, and later started farming in Dodge County. He started with 160 acres and a log house, and gradually added to his possessions. At one time he was a land owner in Wabasha County, but never actually lived here, although a number of his family became leading citizens in the vicinity of Plainview. In Waupun, Wis., he served in various local offices, including those of assessor and member of the school board. After a long and useful life he died May 16, 1886. Mr. Wedge was married in 1838 to Lovisa Smalley, of New York State, and this union was blessed with eleven children: Henry D., born June 21, 1839, who died May 12, 1918; Ellen, born February 19, 1841, who died in infancy; Ellen (second), born March 18, 1842, who married Julius W. Mallory, and died September 30, 1918; George N., born February 15, 1844, who married Emogene Fuller, and died May 24, 1914; Jane, born September 25, 1845, who died January 27, 1852; Almira A., born August 7, 1847, who died September 3, 1849; Rosetta M., born May 20, 1849, who died June 28, 1872; James, born June 24, 1851, married to Isabella F. Chesebro; Seymour, born October 14, 1853, and died May 31, 1855; Eva, born October 1, 1855, widow of Charles Colvin; and Charles, born January 15, 1858.

**James R. Wedge**, a retired farmer and justice of the peace, is one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Plainview Township. He was born in Dodge County, Wisconsin, June 24, 1851, son of Horatio and Lovisa (Smalley) Wedge, his parents having been natives of Litchfield County, Con-



necticut, who removed to Wisconsin in October, 1843, and finally died at Waupon, that state. James R. Wedge was educated in the district schools of Wisconsin, and after laying down his school books took up the business of farming. In 1878 he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and bought a tract of 100 acres two and a half miles southeast of Plainview village. The tract was unimproved, and it devolved upon him to develop it into a profitable farm, a task that took many years of hard labor; but it was finally accomplished, and in September, 1897, Mr. Wedge retired from active work, turning over the management of the place, which he still owns, to his son, Ernest A. It is now equipped with good buildings, fences and modern machinery, and is one of the best among the small farms of the township. Five years ago Mr. Wedge was elected justice of the peace, and has since continued to serve, his incumbency of the office having proved highly satisfactory to his fellow citizens. He was formerly a member of the board of supervisors, serving as chairman for several years, and has also been treasurer of his school district. The First National Bank of Plainview numbers him among its stockholders. His religious affiliations are with the Congregational church. On January 2, 1873, Mr. Wedge was married to Isabelle F. Chesebro, at Waupon, Wis. She was born in Otsego County, New York, September 16, 1853, daughter of William D. and Mary Jane Chase. The family had migrated to Walworth County, Wisconsin, from which locality they removed to Dodge County, where they spent 18 years. The parents afterward resided in Fond du Lac and in Waupon, in which latter place they finally died. Mr. and Mrs. Wedge are the parents of three children: Ernest A., Paul J. and Margaret I. Ernest A., who was born at Waupon, Wis., November 12, 1873, and is now operating his father's farm, married Jennie Bell Reich, and has three children, Josephine B., Ellen M. and Harry James. Paul J., who is now cashier of the First National Bank at Miles City, Mont., married Catherine I. Buchanan, and has three children, June E., Cathryn F. and Joan Isabelle. Margaret I. is now receiving a nurse's training at Eitel Hospital, Minneapolis.

**Rodman Burchard**, one of the best known of the early settlers of Greenville, at one time a flourishing hamlet, but now only a memory, was born in Paris, Oneida County, New York, December 26, 1808. He there received such education as the neighborhood afforded and there grew to manhood. In 1845 he went to Wethersfield, Wyoming County, in the same state, and shortly afterward came westward to Michigan, where he planned to make his future home. But being stricken with the fever, and attributing his illness to the climate, he returned east, and took up his home at Gainesville, New York. There, December 23, 1847, he married Esther A. Davis. He still, however, had the pioneering spirit, and accordingly purchased a farm in a little developed portion of the state of Virginia. But already the Abolitionists were making themselves felt, and after all preparations were made to move his family to his new place, he decided that he did not care to share the troubles which he felt were in store for the slave States, so he disposed of his purchase, and turned his attention to the Middle West. Starting out with his family, he in due time reached the Mississippi and took a steamer up that river. At Wabasha he disembarked, loaded his goods on a team which he hired, and with his family started for the new village of Greenville, where former friends from the East had already settled. Upon his arrival there he formed a partnership with the Richards Brothers, and opened a general store in a log house, his family living on the upper floor, and accommodating such travelers as desired lodging and meals. Trade increased so rapidly that the firm was soon compelled to erect a larger building, and the Burchard family occupied all of the old store as a dwelling. There Mr. Burchard remained for many years, watching the decline of the village with sadness. His wife died June 10, 1866, and he moved his family to Plainview. Here, April 13, 1871, he married Margaret Crossen. Mr. Burchard died February 6, 1883. He was a man of good judgment, strong



will, and great perseverance, a kindly neighbor, and a good husband and father. By his first wife, Esther, Mr. Burchard had one son and three daughters: Emily Adell, who married Elijah Roscoe Cornwell; Charlie Davis, now deceased, who married Selina A. McLaughlin, of Plainview; Florence Amanda, who married Alfred Darwin Perkins, of Windom, Minn.; and Mattie Ann, deceased, who was the wife of William McKinney. By his second wife, Margaret, he had one child, Fay R. Both mother and son are now deceased.

**Chauncey C. Cornwell**, for many years a prominent hardware dealer in Plainview, was born in Erie County, New York, April 30, 1812, the son of Elihue Cornwell. From New York, the family removed to Middletown, Connecticut, and there Chauncey C. received a common school education. As a boy he learned the trade of shoemaker, and as a young man he engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes with his brother, H. D., under the firm name of H. D. Cornwell & Co. After some two years, this partnership was dissolved, and Chauncey C. removed to Willoughby, Ohio, where he opened a similar establishment. There he successfully continued in business until 1849, when owing to ill health he disposed of his business and moved to Lovell Township, Dodge County, Wis., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. The outdoor life greatly improved his health, and his thoughts again turned to a business career. Accordingly in 1865 he brought his growing family to Minnesota, and located in Plainview, where he engaged in the hardware business, first with E. B. Eddy, next with E. Dodge, and finally with his son, Elijah R. Energetic and industrious, he made a success of his business operations, and at the time of his demise he was in very comfortable circumstances financially, leaving a large estate to his children. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which he took an active part. He was a Republican in politics, and foremost in movements which promised to aid the advancement of the community. He died November 14, 1901. Mr. Cornwell was married, while in Connecticut, to Rosella Young, of Haddam, Conn., by whom he had seven children, of whom four grew to adult years. Harvey D. is a retired farmer living at Pine Island in this state. Elizabeth, now deceased, married Alphonso A. Poole. Alfred C. is a Plainview electrician. Elijah R. is a prominent citizen of Plainview. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Cornwell married Elizabeth Welch, a native of Ohio.

**Elijah Roscoe Cornwell**, veteran of the Civil War, prominent business man and influential citizen, has had a career of industry and honor in Wabasha County for over half a century. He holds the good will and esteem of the entire community, and in the afternoon of life he is enjoying the just fruits of his more than three score and ten well spent years. Elijah R. Cornwell was born in Willoughby, Lake County, Ohio, September 17, 1847, the son of Chauncey C. and Rosella Cornwell. He was brought to Lowell Township, Dodge County, Wis., when a small boy, and there attended a neighboring district school. He was but sixteen years old when, in 1864, he volunteered as a private in Co. K, 39th Wis. Vol. Inf., with which he served six months under Gen. C. C. Washburn, at Memphis, during the exciting days of the Forrest raids. With a good record as a soldier, the youth returned home, and in the spring of 1865 entered the employ of the Winnebago City Mills at Winnebago City, Minn. In 1867 he joined his father's family at Plainview, and the next year formed a partnership with Henry Horton in a wagon shop. This business was successfully continued until 1873, when the partnership was dissolved. He then entered the employ of his father in the hardware store, and in 1875 became a partner. At the time of his father's death he became the sole owner and so continued until July, 1917. He was thus connected with the hardware trade and business life of Plainview as one of its most active factors, and his story is a part of the story of the growth of the village. Busy as he has been with his work, he has found plenty of time for the development of the social and fraternal side of his nature. He was one of the charter members of the local



G. A. R. and is now its secretary. In the Masonic order he is a member of the Blue Lodge at Plainview and of the Chapter and Commandery at Rochester. In politics he is a life long Republican, and is a thorough adherent of the best traditions of that party. He is known as an honorable business man and loyal friend, and few people stand higher in the regard of the community than he. Mr. Cornwell was married November 29, 1869, to Emily Adell Burchard, the daughter of Rodman and Esther A. (Davis) Burchard. Their children were as follows: Florene, born April 13, 1871; Charles B., December 25, 1872; Nellie, October 16, 1876; Florence, July 17, 1878; Frances (Frankie), August 18, 1880; Maude E., April 27, 1883, and Glenn R., March 30, 1891. Florene, now deceased, married John G. Patton, who perished in the New Richmond cyclone. She left one child, Margaret Mather Patton. Charles B. married Ella Kjermer, of Rochester, Minn., and is now a druggist at Villard, this state. He has two children, Dean and Seth Cornwell. Nellie died young. Florence is the wife of B. E. Rohweder, a Plainview druggist, and has two children, Lois and Miriam Rohweder. Frances married Charles DeWitt, a Wabasha County farmer, who died. They had two children, Esther (deceased), and John Donald DeWitt. Maude E. is a trained nurse. Glenn R. engaged for some years in business with his farmer, is now a hardware clerk in Lewiston. On November 28, 1916, he married Lydia Schankey.

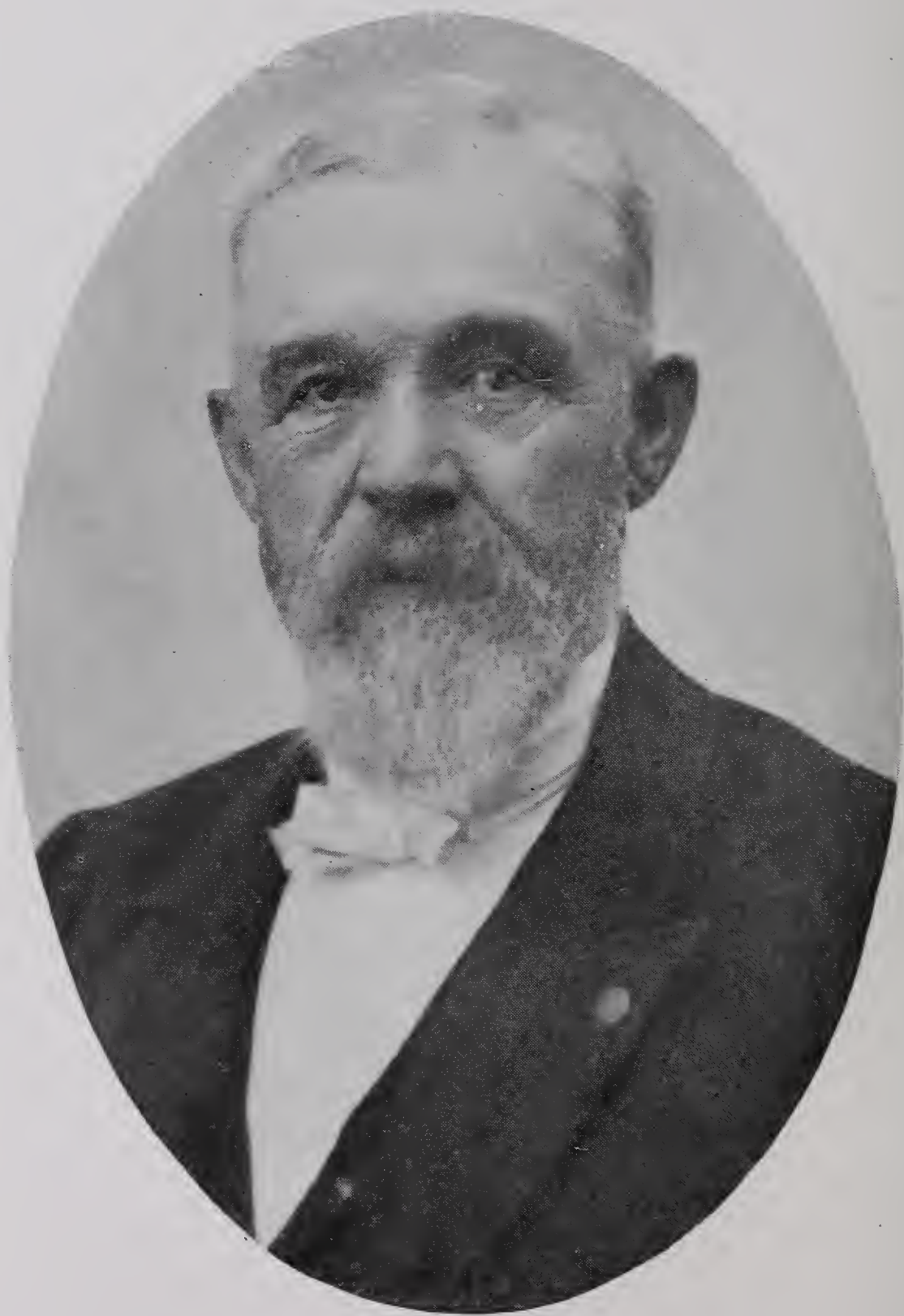
**Bernhardt E. Rohweder**, proprietor of the Plainview Drug Co., was born in Winona, Minn., December 1, 1879, son of John and Pauline (Staack) Rohweder. After attending the Winona public schools, he entered the drug store of McConnon & Co., in the same city, as apprentice, and was there employed until 1899. Then he went to St. Paul, where he followed the drug business until the summer of 1905. In the following spring he came to Plainview and associated himself with C. D. Burchard, under the firm name of Burchard & Rohweder, operating a drug store on the corner of Jefferson and Main streets. In 1911 Mr. W. E. Miller purchased the interests of Mr. Burchard and became a partner in the business with the subject of this sketch, the firm then adopting the name of The Plainview Drug Co. After a period of three years, Mr. Miller's interests were purchased by R. J. Boardman, and two years later Mr. Rohweder became sole owner and proprietor, and has continued the business under the same style—The Plainview Drug Co. He has built up a large trade and keeps a full line of drugs, both for general sale and prescription purposes, toilet articles, wall paper, paints, Eastman Kodaks, Columbia and Sonora graphophones, and other goods in popular demand. As a progressive citizen, interested in the welfare of the community, he has associated himself by membership with the Commercial Club and the Fair Association, and is now serving his second term on the board of education. He is past master of Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M., at Plainview; is also a Scottish Rite Mason, at Winona, and a member of the Eastern Star Chapter at Plainview. In 1916 he moved from the corner to his present location. Mr. Rohweder was married at Plainview, September 27, 1905, to Florence Cornwell, who was born July 17, 1878. Of this union three children have been born: Lois, December 16, 1906, who is now a student in the Plainview high school; Miriam, born March 10, 1909; and John Cornwell, born October 6, 1914, who died February 11, 1915. Mrs. Rohweder is active in various social organizations, being a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Ladies' Circle. She and her husband are members of the Congregational church, and are people of recognized social standing.

**John Rohweder**, father of B. E. Rohweder, of Plainview, was born in Arfte-Holstein, Germany, January 24, 1840. In 1859 he set out for the United States, and after a voyage of 48 days arrived in this country. At first locating at Blue Island, Ill., he remained there for two years, and then removed to Winona, where he engaged in the butcher's business, in which he continued for the rest of his life, except during the last five years, during which period he held









DR. JOHN PRATT WASTE



the position of health inspector. His death occurred April 2, 1910. Mr. Rohweder was first married to Elizabeth Wendt, who died after a married life of 13 years, leaving six children: Henry, Amelia, Augusta, Lizzie, George and Emma. Mr. Rohweder married secondly, in 1875, Pauling Staack, a native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, who died in Winona, Minn., September 8, 1919. She was the mother of five children: Gustave, Matilda, Bernhardt, Lydia and Frank.

**Charles A. Venables**, a well-known citizen of Plainview, with a wide acquaintance throughout the county, was born in Plainview, January 14, 1874, the son of Charles and Mary (Collard) Venables. He was reared in his native village and attended the Plainview public schools. In 1893 he became local representative for the J. R. Watkins Medical Co., of Winona, a position he has since retained. In this capacity he travels throughout the county, and his arrival at the various homes, with his cheery greeting and cordial smile, is always eagerly welcomed. Mr. Venables was married November 30, 1899, to Helen M. Waste, the daughter of Dr. J. P. and Helen S. (Higgins) Waste. This union has been blessed with five children, Maude E., Paul C., Mina E., John Kenneth and Marguerite E. Maude E. was born September 30, 1900, graduated from the Plainview high school, and is now attending the Winona State Normal School. Paul C. was born May 27, 1903, and Mina E. was born June 21, 1905, both now being students in the Plainview high school. John Kenneth was born October 10, 1909, and is attending the Plainview public schools. Marguerite E. was born March 7, 1913. Mrs. Venables received her preliminary education in the Plainview public schools, attended the Northwestern Christiana College at Excelsior, Minn., took a kindergarten course at Minneapolis, and taught kindergarten for some time at Plainview.

**Dr. John Pratt Waste** was for many years a commanding figure in Wabasha County life; his work and character are woven into the very warp and woof of the story of the development of Greenwood Prairie, and his worth will never be forgotten. As a pioneer physician he served the people for miles around, sacrificing his own ease and comfort, making long drives in all kinds of weather, keeping weary vigil beside the bedsides of pioneer homes, healing the sick and comforting the sorrowing. His services were often given without hope of recompense, and his skill was at the disposal of all regardless of their financial resources. A man of strong personality, of helpful spirit, and jovial temperament, he was beloved by all, respected by all, and admired by all, while to his intimate associates he was a man of rare social qualities, a loyal comrade, and an admirable entertainer. He lived and wrought in Plainview during the formative period of its growth, and the stories of his many humorous sayings will live with the memory of the wonderful work he accomplished as a citizen. During his latter years he gave up some of his active practice and devoted himself largely to office consultations, in which his long experience proved of the highest value to those who had need of his services. John Pratt Waste was born in Greenwich, Washington County, New York, February 17, 1837, son of Luke and Hannah (Pratt) Waste. He received his early education in the public and academic schools, took two full courses of lectures in the University of Michigan, and graduated from the College of Medicine at Cleveland, Ohio. For eight months, toward the close of the Civil War, he served his country as assistant surgeon in the 193rd Ohio Vol. Inf. In the fall of 1865 he came to Plainview, opened an office, and here continued to practice. In addition to the strenuous labors incident to his chosen profession, he took an active part in public affairs, and had an important share in shaping public policies. For many years he did most efficient work on the school board, and the educational system of the present time still owes much to his guidance. In 1871-72 he satisfactorily represented this district in the State Senate, where his worth and dignified bearing attracted much attention. From 1898 to 1906 he was Plainview postmaster. Fraternally he was active in the Masonic and



Odd Fellow orders. He was also an early member of the State and sectional Medical Societies. After a long and useful life he died April 17, 1906, and his death was sincerely mourned. Dr. Waste was married January 17, 1867, to Helen S. Higgins, born in Otsego County, New York, September 6, 1841, daughter of Henry M. and Lucinda Miller Higgins, and by them brought to Mayfield, Ohio, when she was three years old. Dr. and Mrs. Waste were blessed with five children: An unnamed infant, who died early; Mina E., the wife of George W. Richardson, of Clear Lake, Minn.; John P., a truck farmer of Plainview, who married Elizabeth Hall; Helen M., wife of Charles A. Venables, salesman; and William M., who died at the age of seven years.

**James Emery Foster**, manufacturer of cement blocks and other cement products, at Plainview, was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn., February 11, 1858, son of William Henry and Emeline (Griffith) Foster. The father was a native of Ohio, and the mother of New York State, but both were reared in Ohio, in which state they were married. William Henry Foster preceded his wife to Minnesota, coming here in 1856 to look up a location for a home. The land he selected was in section 36, Plainview Township, on or near the southeast corner, which is also the corner where the three counties of Wabasha, Winona and Olmsted touch each other. His wife joined him in the following year, and for a short time Mr. Foster worked on his farm. Instead of continuing in that occupation, however, he took up his trade of carpenter and contractor, which he followed subsequently for most of his life. In 1866 he moved to the village of Elba, in Winona County, where he spent nine years. He next took a homestead in Clark County, Wisconsin, which he later sold, moving thence to Cumberland, Barron County, that state, where he died March 10, 1893. His wife, who survived him, died in Wabasha County in October, 1917. They were the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters. Four of them are now deceased, namely: Melissa, who married Daniel Hall, and died in Iowa in 1911; Charles, who died in 1893; John in 1886, and Alice, who died at the age of two and a half years in Ohio. The living are: Sam, who resides on a farm in Winona County; Laura, wife of William Stegman, residing in Seattle, Wash.; James E., of Plainview; Amos, who is farming in Clark County, Wisconsin, and Julius, who lives in Washington. James E. Foster was educated in the common schools of Wabasha County. At the age of ten years he left home and began working for others, doing chores for his board and continuing his attendance at school, his work for awhile being done out of school hours. As he grew older he became a regular farm hand, drawing the usual wages. In the winter time he worked in the woods lumbering. He also learned the trades of carpenter and mason, at which he worked when not engaged in farming or lumbering. On September 14, 1887, he was married at Portage, Wis., to Christina S. Curtis, daughter of Charles and Harriet Curtis, who were natives of New York and Massachusetts respectively. Mr. Foster and wife located on a dairy farm of 80 acres in the township of Colby, Wis., on May 4, 1888, and on that farm they resided for three and a half years. In October, 1891, they moved to Columbia County, Wis., where they followed dairy farming until 1897, when Mr. Foster gave up that occupation and took up mason and concrete work as a business. On September 20, 1899, he bought a home in Poynette, Columbia County, and moving there continued work at his trade. On April 27, 1904, he bought the first concrete block machine in the state, and the second machine sold after being patented. In the fall of 1907 he built a concrete block manufacturing plant in Lodi, Wis., and in March, 1908, sold to Caldwell & Christler, operating the Poynette machine until the fall of 1909. He then moved the machine to Minnesota and built a house for S. E. Foster on Hoosier Ridge. On June 10, 1910, he moved to Plainview and established his concrete business here, beginning the manufacture of cement blocks and other building products in a factory that he has since developed into a thriving institution. His machinery is operated by



steam power and a large part of his product is sold in local territory. The enterprise is an important one, being one of the few successful manufacturing plants in this agricultural county. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are the parents of four children: Charles H., born March 18, 1889; Christina Elmira, April 11, 1893; Edith E., April 6, 1896; and Ray E., October 11, 1898. Charles H. resides in Plainview. Christina Elmira is the wife of Roy Batty, of Decora, Columbia County, Wis. Edith and Roy are residing at home, the former being a teacher in the public school. The family are members of the Methodist church, and Mr. Foster belongs also to the Woodmen and the Equitable Fraternal Union. Charles and Harriet Curtis, parents of Mrs. James E. Foster, were pioneers of their locality in Wisconsin, arriving there at an early day, and hauling their supplies from Milwaukee by ox team. They remained on the farm they selected until the death of Mr. Curtis, April 14, 1902. His wife is still living and makes her home with her daughter Martha in Michigan. They had five children, three of whom are now deceased: William H. died in November, 1859, aged five years; Lupton W., born September 21, 1856, died May 12, 1905; Francis E., born May 10, 1860, died May 8, 1898. The two living are: Christina S., born September 18, 1867, now Mrs. James E. Foster; and Martha E., born January 3, 1873, who lives in Michigan.

**Alfred R. Allen**, one of the pioneer settlers of Plainview Township, now deceased, was born in the Green Mountain region of Vermont, January 6, 1837. In 1857 he accompanied his parents to Wisconsin, where he subsequently married Elizabeth Bignell. She was born in England, January 29, 1840, and came to this country with her parents when six weeks old. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Allen came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and settled on 80 acres of wild land in Plainview Township, on which they erected the usual pioneer log house, and afterwards other buildings, continuing improvements for many years. They also increased the size of their farm by an additional purchase of 40 acres, and in time became prosperous through hard work and thrift. After the breaking out of the Civil War, Mr. Allen enlisted in Company B, Tenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and was in the service three years. He escaped death, wounds and imprisonment and returned safely home to resume family life and his labors on the farm. There this worthy pioneer was called away by death on January 9, 1909. He was survived by his wife, who is now residing in Plainview. He was a Republican in politics and affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. At an early period of his active career he had spent three years in Watonwan County, Minn., where he attempted farming, but left on account of the grasshoppers, which devoured his crops. His ultimate choice of Wabasha County as a location proved fortunate. The house in which his widow now resides in Plainview is owned by herself and her son Julius.

**William C. Allen**, a retired farmer living in Plainview, was born in this township, April 11, 1867, son of Alfred R. and Elizabeth (Bignell) Allen. He was trained to agriculture on his parents' farm, and on January 2, 1888, he was married to Minnie, daughter of Napoleon and Fianna Hessig, of Whitewater, Winona County, Minn. Previous to his marriage he had worked for his father, but he now started in for himself, for two years living on the John Beiter farm. Then he abandoned agriculture for awhile, and going to St. Paul, was employed successively by the North St. Paul Motor Line and the Wisconsin Railway. At the end of three years he returned to Plainview Township and rented his father's farm, on which he remained two years, in the meanwhile buying 75 acres of wild land in the vicinity, to which he subsequently moved. On this tract he erected a good set of buildings, and lived there three years, during which time he followed general farming and threshing. Then in 1907, having acquired a competence, he sold out and took up his residence in the village, where he owns a nice house, and is enjoying a period of comparative rest, carrying on a produce business as a dealer in butter, eggs, poultry and cream. In politics he is a Republican, while his religious instincts have turned in the



directon of Spiritualism, a subject now being investigated by some of the leading minds in Europe and America. On November 8, 1917, he sustained a bereavement in the death of his wife. Five children were born to them: Alfred N., March 19, 1889, now living in Plainview; Etta G., May 28, 1891; Elmer W., April 21, 1895; Lee E., February 14, 1898; and Iva, September 15, 1902. The four younger children are living at home with their father, Iva being a student in the high school. Mr. Allen is fraternally affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and and with the Yeomen at Plainview.

**Mathias T. Duerre**, for several years a prominent Plainview banker, and former auditor of Wabasha County, is well known throughout the county, and his wide acquaintance, his reputation for sterling worth, his experience, and keen business ability were important factors in the success of the institution he assisted in guiding. Being possessed of energy and enthusiasm, he coupled progressive ideas in modern banking with a thorough appreciation of the conservative policies necessary in the maintainance of financial integrity and solidity. Born at Read's Landing, this county, October 2, 1877, he is the son of Henry and Pauline (Lutz) Duerre. He was educated in the public schools of Read's Landing and Wabasha, and in 1897 was graduated from the business college at La Crosse, Wis. That year he started his business career as a hardware clerk in the store of his brother, George F. Duerre, at Plainview. In this capacity he rapidly won friends and the confidence of the people, as the result of which his entry into politics was well received. Urged by his friends to run for county office, he announced himself as a candidate for auditor in the fall of 1906 and was elected by a substantial majority. He proved a most efficient officer, the affairs of his office were well conducted, and he maintained the confidence and trust of the voters. On January 1, 1911, he retired from office and accepted a position as cashier of the First National Bank. In this capacity he made himself decidedly popular with the depositors, his unfailing courtesy and obliging manners adding to his already large list of friends. In January, 1920, he resigned his position with the bank and is now engaged in the life insurance business. He is well and favorably known in fraternal circles, belonging to the Masonic order and the Odd Fellows at Plainview, and the Elks at Red Wing. As a public spirited citizen he has taken his share in every movement that has for its object the betterment of the entire community, and his influence is always on the side of progress and development. Mr. Duerre was united in marriage, August 13, 1918, at Elgin, Minn., to Iva D. Whipple of that village.

**Eugene C. Wedge**, whose active career was spent chiefly in agricultural pursuits, and who is now enjoying the fruits of his labors as a retired citizen of the village of Plainview, was born in Waupun, Dodge County, Wis., January 3, 1864, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Wedge. When six months old his mother brought him to Wabasha County, where they joined the husband and father, who had preceded them here in the year 1861. When old enough he attended the rural schools of his district in Plainview Township, and remained on his parents' farm until 19 years of age. He then left home and began working out on farms in the neighborhood, for his uncles and the neighbors, being thus occupied for about a year. At the end of that time he resumed his studies, being a pupil for one year in the Plainview high school. Then for 15 months he was employed in a milling business at New Castle, Wis., at the end of that time returning to Plainview. The next ten years of his life were spent in farm labor. He now branched out for himself, buying an 80-acre farm, known as the Reitinghouse Farm, in Plainview Township; after operating same four years he sold it and bought a creamery at Plainview. The destruction of the creamery by fire put an end to this enterprise within a year, and Mr. Wedge then rented his father's farm, which he subsequently carried on for seven years. His next venture was the purchase of a 90-acre farm in Whitewater Valley, in the Town of Beaver, Winona County, of which he was proprietor for



two years, during that time also serving as school clerk. After that he rented a larger farm for two years, and still another for three years, both in the White-water Valley, and in the meanwhile sold his 90-acre farm. Having spent seven years in Winona County, he again returned to his father's old home in Plainview Township. There he farmed until April 1, 1919, when he retired and bought his present residence on Jefferson street in Plainview. Mr. Wedge was married, October 15, 1891, to Elizabeth C. Christison, who was born in Wisconsin, November 9, 1862, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Allison) Christison. Three children have blessed their union: Esther M., born December 31, 1895; Arthur, November 10, 1897; and Clarence E., November 30, 1899. Esther M. is now the wife of George A. Amidon, a farmer of Stockton, Winona County, and has three children, Clyde K., Winnifred E. and Donald E. Arthur, who is now operating the old H. D. Wedge farm, being of the third generation to occupy it, married Grace Mills. Clarence E. is a student in Carlton College at Northfield, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene C. Wedge are active members of the Congregational church in Plainview, of which he is also clerk. He belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters, the I. O. O. F., and Royal Neighbors. The Eastern Star, Rebeccas, G. A. R. Circle and Royal Neighbors count Mrs. Wedge as a worthy member.

**John Christison**, who was for over 23 years a well known farmer in Plainview Township, was born in Scotland. In Summit, Wis., he married Elizabeth Allison, who was also of Scotch birth, and in 1872 they came to Wabasha County, locating on a farm two and a half miles northwest of Plainview. There they remained for nine years, gradually making progress in the world, and at the end of that time removed to another farm, northeast of Plainview, on which they spent five years. Another removal was then made, to a farm of 80 acres in the same township, south of Plainview, where they lived until 1895. In that year they retired, selling the farm and moving to Owatonna, Minn., where John Christison died in June, 1908. His wife survived him ten years, passing away in August, 1918. They were industrious and worthy people, well respected during their residence in the county, and having a wide circle of friends.

**Charles J. Donaldson**, until recently proprietor of an up-to-date jewelry establishment in Plainview, was born in Plainview Township, December 7, 1875, son of Charles W. and Nancy C. (Cheatham) Donaldson. His elementary education was acquired in the district school near his parents' farm, and he subsequently continued his studies in the high school in Plainview. Until 1901 he was engaged in farming, but in that year he entered the jewelry store of H. G. Austin, with whom he learned the jewelry business and engraving. He also spent three years in the employ of Alfred Beinhorn, a well known jeweler of Winona. In 1905 Mr. Donaldson went to Seattle as salesman for Hardy & Co., and was thus employed for eight years. Then returning to Plainview, he remained here two years, at the end of which time he went back to Seattle, and was salesman there three years for Sutter & Co. In 1914 he again returned to Plainview, and purchased the jewelry store of H. G. Austin, which he conducted as sole proprietor, carrying a full and complete line of jewelry, clocks, watches, cut glass, silverware, and everything usually found in a good modern jewelry store, his stock being valued approximately at \$7,000. As a capable business man and reliable dealer, he gained recognition, and did a prosperous and increasing business until January 23, 1920, when he sold out the business and is now looking after farm interests and dealing to some extent in real estate. He is the owner of a farm of 130 acres in Elgin Township, which he rents out. The Commercial Club numbers him among its active and useful members. Mr. Donaldson was united in marriage, September 25, 1906, to Alma M. Schroeder, of Grand Meadow, Minn., born April 15, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson are affiliated religiously with the Congregational church, while his political opinions identify him as a member of the Republican party. He and his wife are well known and popular residents of the village. Both are



members of the Eastern Star Chapter, and Mr. Donaldson belongs also to Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M.

**Peter Governor**, a respected resident of the village of Plainview, is a man who, though hardly yet in middle life, has already achieved pecuniary independence as the result of successful farming operations. He was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., January 29, 1881, son of Theodore and Elizabeth (Shrader) Governor. The scene of his birth was a farm which had been taken as a homestead by his grandfather Governor, and was the home of the family until 1883, when they moved to South Dakota. After spending eleven years in that state, they removed to Wisconsin, where they spent six years, and then, returning to Wabasha County, engaged in farming near Kellogg. The father, Theodore Governor, died in 1906, and was survived by his wife, who is still living. Peter Governor was educated in the district schools of South Dakota and Wisconsin, and remained at home until 1908, except for two years, 1900 and 1901, when he was away in Wisconsin and upper Michigan. During that time he saved his money and bought 40 acres in Whitewater Township. This land he sold in 1910 to Kate Marnach, who afterward became his wife. In 1908 Mr. Governor engaged in agriculture on his own account, buying a farm of 130 acres in section 34, Plainview Township, which he operated for six years. He then sold it and bought one of 160 acres in section 10. There he resided engaged in general farming until the fall of 1919, when he sold the place and, moving to Plainview, purchased his present home in the village. His active career was marked by industry and good judgment, and he is now reaping the reward of his labors in the enjoyment of a competence. Mr. Governor was married, February 19, 1912, to Kate Marnach, who was born in Whitewater, Winona County, Minn., October 11, 1883, daughter of Nicholas and Barbara (Georges) Marnach. Her parents were natives of Germany, who located in Whitewater Township in 1860, being married there, and carrying on the farm until their death. The mother was the first to pass away, in 1887, Mr. Marnach dying in 1901. Their daughter Kate then became heir to 160 acres and the home place of 20 acres, which latter she sold. She subsequently purchased other land until she had 240 acres, which she sold in the fall of 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Governor are members of the Catholic church. They have a wide circle of friends in Plainview and the vicinity and are socially popular. On February 16, 1920, a son was born to them, who lived only five days and was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Elba.

**Frank J. Nettekoven**, proprietor of the Hotel Plainview, in Plainview village, which he has successfully conducted for the last eight years, was born in Waunakee, Dane County, Wis., August 3, 1871, son of John and Margaret (Kessnich) Nettekoven. The parents were natives of Cologne, Germany, the father, born in 1834, coming to the United States in 1855, at the age of 21 years. The mother came in 1855 at the age of twelve; she was born in 1843. They were married at Springfield, Dane County, Wis., locating immediately after on a farm in the vicinity. Three years later they moved to Waunakee, where they farmed until 1883. In that year John Nettekoven bought an interest in a flour mill at Waunakee, known as the Westport Roller Mills, and was connected with it as one of the proprietors until 1897. He then traded his interest in the mill for a farm in Fond du Lac County, situated about seven miles from the city of Fond du Lac, where he subsequently followed agriculture until his death in October, 1906. His wife passed away in September, 1905. They were the parents of nine children, of whom three died in infancy. The others were John, Peter, Elizabeth, Anna, Frank J., and Joseph I. John is now a retired farmer living at Fond du Lac. Peter resides in Beloit, Wis. Elizabeth, who married Paul Nellen, died in 1887. Anna died at the age of twelve years. Frank J. is the subject of this sketch. Joseph I. in 1896 enlisted in the United States army, and in February, 1899, was sent to the Philippine Islands, where he was appointed clerk in the Adjutant's office, and there served until 1901.









*J Q Bateman*



He then returned to the United States and subsequently became assistant paymaster in the auditing office of the War Department at Washington. In September, 1917, he sailed for France, was commissioned captain, and became paymaster of marines. At the present time (January, 1920) he is still in the service, helping to discharge the marines. Frank J. Nettekoven acquired his education in the public schools of Waunakee, Wis. He began industrial life in the milling business, and, leaving home at the age of 18, followed that occupation in various places, including Milwaukee, Madison, Cambridge, Pepin and Lake Mills, Wisconsin. In the summer of 1899 he came to Plainview and accepted a position with the Greenwood Rolling Mills as head miller, which position he held for nine years and three months. He resigned it to engage in business for himself, buying a pool and billiard hall, connected with a short order restaurant, which he conducted until the spring of 1912, at which time he purchased the Hotel Plainview. This is a 43-room hotel, steam-heated, and well provided with modern conveniences. Under Mr. Nettekoven's management it is well patronized, as he possesses necessary qualifications for a popular landlord, being of a genial and obliging disposition, with frank and courteous manners, appreciated by the traveling public. In the management of the place he is ably assisted by his wife, a refined and affable lady, who looks after the domestic affairs of the house, and by their son, Frederick, who fills the role of clerk, and is one of the popular and representative young men of Plainview. Mrs. Nettekoven was in maidenhood Elizabeth Du Frenne, and was born at Black Earth, Wis., January 2, 1870. She was married to Mr. Nettekoven, October 16, 1894. Their first child died in infancy, unnamed, on February 7, 1898. Their only other child, Frederick W., was born February 12, 1900. He was educated in the public school and Plainview high school, and enlisted for service in the World War, September 28, 1918. He was located at Midway, St. Paul, in the Air Service Mechanics School. He was discharged January 17, 1919. A young man of musical ability, he is a member of the Zabel Orchestra and the Plainview Concert Band. He has joined the American Legion, being a member of Allen Post, and also belongs to the Knights of Columbus, being with his father and mother a member of the Catholic church.

**John D. Bateman**, for some years a highly esteemed resident of Plainview, to which place he retired after a long and successful career in agriculture, was born in Winona County, January 14, 1863, son of Hill and Frances C. (Carpenter) Bateman. The parents were early settlers in Winona County, where they lived until 1870, when they removed to Olmsted County, and the rest of their lives was spent in farming there until their retirement in 1891. Both are now deceased. John D. Bateman acquired his education in the public schools of Winona and Olmsted Counties. After removing to the latter county he remained at home on his parents' farm in Quincy Township until their retirement in 1891, at which time he purchased the place—a beautiful farm of 269 acres. Progressive and enterprising, he accomplished good results, doing a prosperous business, and making extensive improvements, including the erection of two large barns and other out-buildings. His achievements and character marked him out as one of the leading men of his township, and his fellow citizens held him in high esteem. In 1912, on account of impaired health, he retired and moved to Plainview; but his active disposition would not permit him to remain idle, and so, from time to time, he rendered assistance in the various stores and hotel, whenever a shortage of help gave him the opportunity of being useful. His pleasant manner and willingness to assist others made him a general favorite with all. None knew him but to love him, and one of his chief aims in life was to make the world a happier place for others to live in. In his family he was an ideal husband and father; his life blessed those with whom he came in contact, and his span of years on earth was worthily spent. It ended April 9, 1917, but his memory will long be enshrined in the hearts of his family, his friends, and all who knew him. Mr. Bateman was



interested in public affairs, but took no delight in the hurly-burly of politics, though as a public spirited citizen, he filled with credit a number of school and township offices. With his genial temperament it was natural that he should take delight in fraternal life, and his lodge affiliations included membership in the Masonic order, in which he had advanced as far as the Chapter, R. A. M.; the Odd Fellows, including the Rebekah lodge; the Modern Woodmen of America, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Equitable Fraternal Union, in all of which he took an active part. Mr. Bateman was married, July 1, 1888, to Clara M. Deidrick, who after some years of married life, died leaving four children: Lillian M., now Mrs. Paul Wilson, of Olmsted County; Mary E., wife of Ervin Vermylia, of Olmsted County; Earl L., who married Laura Bouton and resides in Plainview; and Frances L., now Mrs. Arthur Sasse, of St. Charles. On April 25, 1895, Mr. Bateman married Mrs. Lillian R. Clark, who was born at Piasa, Macoupin County, Illinois, January 31, 1867, daughter of Frank and Jane (Andrews) Bateman. Her parents, who were natives of England, were early settlers at Piasa, arriving there about the close of the Civil War, and being subsequent residents for over 40 years, Frank Bateman being a prominent merchant. Both have passed away. By her first husband, Elmer J. Clark, Mrs. John D. Bateman had two children: James H., who while serving in the marine force took influenza and died October 2, 1918, at Rexham Hospital, Nova Scotia; and Leroy, who died in Illinois at the age of one and a half years. Mrs. Bateman is a member of the Rebekah lodge, in which she occupies the position of vice grand, and right supporter, and also of the Order of the Eastern Star. She is an active member of the Christian church, as was also Mr. Bateman.

**Abraham Bennett McCarty**, a Minnesota pioneer who died at his home in Plainview at 3 o'clock on Tuesday morning, January 9, 1917, was born at Muncey, Penn., November 14, 1828. At the age of nine years he came west with his parents, who made their home for a few years at Springfield, Ills. Later they moved to Beloit, Wis., taking a farm on which he resided until he reached the age of 21. In the following spring he left for Hudson and Stillwater, driving the first team that crossed the prairie, and arriving at Hudson May 20, 1850. That year, on the Fourth of July, he erected the first flagstaff placed in Hudson, the occasion being enthusiastically celebrated. He was in Minneapolis when there was but one log house there. St. Anthony at that time was but a mere trading-post and St. Paul an Indian village. During his pioneer life he also visited Winona, which at the time contained about half a dozen buildings. He spent about five years in Wisconsin, near Stillwater, following the occupation of a farmer, and during which time he broke a great deal of the new prairie for the early settlers. At one time he took a claim where now stands the city of Black River Falls. A very robust and sturdy man, he delighted in the pioneer life and aided many to establish new homes. Over 42 years ago Mr. McCarty came to Woodland, Wabasha County, and shortly after purchased the home farm on which he resided until about eleven years ago. In 1908 he purchased a home and moved to Plainview, retiring from active farm life. He was united in marriage in Woodland, December 25, 1879, to Sarah Smith, who was born at South Danvers, Mass., October 15, 1848. Of this union were born two children: Lottie, October 24, 1880, and Jessie, October 20, 1884. Lottie is now Mrs. Alexander La Rocque, of Webb Lake, Wis., and has one child of her own, Alice, besides an adopted child, Chester. Jessie is the wife of Lynn Helgersen, of Minneapolis, and has two children, Lee W. and Ruth L. Mr. McCarty was a man of generous characteristics, always ready to aid a friend and give assistance to the needy. He found great pleasure in doing good to others. He was an active, industrious man who never shirked his duty. He was a great home lover, yet took much pleasure in associating with neighbors and friends. In his declining years his greatest regret was his inability to follow an active life. During the holiday season he loved



to see his children and grandchildren about the festive board. His memory will linger long in the minds of those who knew him.

**John Husby.** The typical pioneers of the Northwest were the lumberman and the farmer. They it was who laid the foundations of civilization in this region and were the developers of its chief sources of wealth. Each was a hardy class, for there was no room for weaklings. The work was strenuous and could be carried on only by stout hearts and strong arms, with the courage to risk accident and the ability to endure privation. Many fell by the wayside, or sought easier employment in the settled communities; but those who had the strength of body and mind to persevere, and the force of character to resist the temptation to dissipation, in time reaped a fair reward. That the rough life of the lumberman was not necessarily inimical to the chances for long life and continued health is evidenced by living examples, one of the most prominent of whom in Wabasha County is the subject of this sketch. John Husby, than whom few men in the northeastern part of the county are better known. Mr. Husby was born in Trondjen, Norway, May 6, 1835, son of Ingebright and Ingeborg Husby. The father was a well-to-do farmer, owning a farm of 300 acres, and handling stock on a large scale. There the subject of this sketch was reared, and was given good school advantages. He was about to enter college when he and his brother Ingebret decided to seek their fortunes in America, and, carrying out their plan, arrived in Quebec, Canada, in June, 1867. From there John Husby came directly to Reed's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., where he arrived nearly penniless, the expenses of the journey having used up the funds with which he had set out. There was plenty of work here for busy hands, however, and he was idle only two days when he obtained employment with Knute Johnson, who owned a farm just back of Reed's Landing. With him he remained until November, and while working on the farm, or conversing with the villagers, he learned something about the lumber industry, the wild and romantic occupation followed during the winter season in the forest, when there was nothing to be done on the farms, and the money to be made at it. Being young and strong, with a vigorous constitution, it was just the work for him, and as the season was then opening, he sought a job and found it with the Knapp-Stout Lumber Co., of Eau Claire, Wis., being sent to their camp about 40 miles northeast of that point. All that winter he worked as a chopper, returning to Reed's Landing in the spring of 1869, and being retained by the Knapp-Stout Company as the man in charge of their warehouse at the mouth of the Chippewa river. His duty was to receive and check goods from the Mississippi river packets, which were shipped up the Chippewa river on the boats of the company. During the winter of 1869-70 Mr. Husby chopped cordwood above Alma, Wis., for his own use. In the spring he re-entered the employ of the Knapp-Stout Lumber Co., checking and coupling lumber cribs for transit down the Mississippi to Dubuque, St. Louis and other points. In 1873 Mr. Husby went with the Carson-Rand Co., otherwise known as the Valley Lumber Co., of Davenport, Iowa, checking and coupling lumber cribs for them as he had for the other company, and at the same point. With both companies he held the position of superintendent of that branch of the business. With the Carson-Rand Co. he remained until 1884, and then went back to the Knapp-Stout Co., with whom he remained until they went out of business about 1899. By that time, Mr. Husby, through industry and thrift, had accumulated a fair competency, and found himself able to retire from active work, which he accordingly did. In 1880 he built a good house at Reed's Landing, where he has since made his home, being well known to every man, woman and child in the community. Though 85 years old, all his faculties are well preserved; he has never been sick a day or had a doctor for himself, and is a man highly respected, and probably envied by those less favorably circumstanced as to health and prosperity. He is a Republican in politics, but has held no office except that of school trustee, in which he served for a number



of years formerly. A member, with his wife, of the Lutheran congregation at "Reed's," he served as its trustee for some years. Mr. Husby was married in 1871 to Mary Solberg, who was born in Tronjan, Norway, in 1840. Mrs. Husby was a woman of frail body, but of a patient, kind and amiable disposition. She died much lamented at Reed's Landing, April 20, 1919, leaving two children: Ida Sophia, born February 28, 1873; and Elizabeth C., born November 6, 1879. Ida Sophia married John La Craft, a jeweler of Plainview, who died April 10, 1919, and whom she survives. Elizabeth C. is the wife of Harvey C. Keys, a traveling salesman, residing in Minneapolis. She has had two children: Marion, born March 14, 1907, who died December 10, 1914; and Harvey Spencer, born February 21, 1910. Both Mr. Husby's daughters received good educational training and were teachers for some years in public schools in this state. Since their mother's death they have resided alternately with their father, attending to his domestic comforts. Mr. Husby is now residing in Plainview.

**George Diming**, a former resident of Highland Township, in the agricultural development of which he took an active part, was a native of Germany. He married Mary Bauer, and at an early date, some time in the fifties, they came to the United States, residing for awhile in Syracuse, N. Y., and later in Wisconsin, from which state they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1859. In the vicinity of Wabasha City, Mr. Diming engaged in farming, but after awhile moved to Highland Township, where he took a claim of 80 acres of wild land. There he and his family resided for some years, until he finally sold the place, which he had improved, and took up his residence in Wabasha. In December, 1893, his wife passed away, and he, himself, survived her but a short time, his death occurring in August, 1894. Mr. Diming was handicapped in his career by the fact that he was a cripple, but he did what he could, and his name is deservedly classed among those of the worthy pioneers of the county.

**Frank Diming**, who has taken a worthy and effective part in the development of Wabasha County's agricultural resources, and incidentally gained a competence which he is now enjoying as a respected citizen of Plainview Village, was born in Wisconsin, August 30, 1858, son of George and Mary (Bauer) Diming. He was but a babe when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, and his education was acquired in the local schools. Farming was the occupation to which he was brought up, and he learned it thoroughly. At the age of 17, he began working out, and so continued for five years. For a year subsequently he worked as a machine hand on farms. Then, in 1882, he started for himself, buying 40 acres in Highland Township. After breaking a few acres, he quit the place, and for six years and two months was employed on the farm of T. G. Bolton, east of town. He then made a new start on his own account, renting a farm in Oakwood Township, on which he resided for three summers. His next enterprise was a more permanent one and was initiated by his purchase of an improved farm of 240 acres in Oakwood Township. There he farmed until 1917, by the fall of which year he had increased the area of the farm to 360 acres, and had greatly improved and developed it. His cattle were of the Durham breed, and he did a good business as a general stock and dairy farmer. Finding himself now in comfortable circumstances, he sold the place to his sons, with the exception of 120 acres, and has since resided in Plainview. He is not idle, however, as he is proprietor of a threshing outfit, and still does other work to occupy his time. He is a member of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Association, and a stockholder in the telephone company. For several years he served on the town board, and has also been treasurer of the school board. On October 12, 1880, Mr. Diming married Margaret Noll, who was born in Indiana, May 12, 1858, daughter of Peter and Hildegard (Schad) Noll. Her parents were natives of Germany, who came from Indiana to Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1859, and there engaged in farming. Mrs. Peter Noll died in October, 1872, and her husband





FRANK DIMING AND FAMILY







subsequently went to Wisconsin, where his death occurred in March, 1900. To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Diming seven children have been born: Frank, December 8, 1881; William, January 18, 1883; Annie H., January 4, 1885; George, who died in infancy; Edward, March 1, 1891; Katherine, March 12, 1894; and George (second), June 4, 1896. Frank, who is now living in Elgin Township, married Mary Angelbeck, and has five children: Margaret, Raymond, Leo, Eleanor and Elvin. William, a resident of Oakwood Township, married Cecelia Evans, and has six children: Helen, Paul, Angeline, Alfred, Marcella and Ralph. Annie H., who became the wife of Frank McGrath, died February 26, 1916. Edward, who is residing on the home farm in Oakwood, married Florence Olson. Katherine resides in Highland Township, the wife of Fred Saggisor. She has one child, Irene. George, the surviving son of that name, entered the United States' service July 24, 1918, and was sent to Europe October 31, that year, with a supply company. Having safely returned, he was discharged July 16, 1919. He married Lydia Holland, and they reside on a part of the old Diming farm in Oakwood Township.

**Conradin W. Herman**, a well known and popular citizen of Plainview Township, where he is successfully engaged in diversified farming, was born in Whitewater Township, Winona County, May 21, 1874, son of George and Caroline (Ebner) Herman. The parents were born in Germany, and were married after coming to this country in the state of Michigan, after which they settled in Whitewater Township, Winona County, Minn. Their son, Conradin, was educated in the rural schools of Winona County and began industrial life on the home farm. In 1897 he began farming for himself on the Manuel Heissig farm at Beaver Creek, Winona County, where he remained five years. He then removed to Verndale, Wadena County, Minn., in which locality he farmed four years. After that he spent a year in Rochester, subsequently taking the Matt Wood farm in Plainview Township, which he operated five years. In 1912 he bought his present farm of 136 acres in sections 23 and 24, Plainview Township, where among the improvements carried out by himself are a windmill, silo, hay barn, hen house and extensive fencing. He is profitably raising Durham cattle and Chester-White hogs, besides the usual crops of this section. He served one year as justice of the peace, and for the last five years has been a director on the school board. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Herman was married October 25, 1899, to Minnie Klavetter, who was born March 4, 1878, daughter of Paul and Amelia (Grepentrog) Klavetter, of Plainview Township. The home circle of Mr. and Mrs. Herman has been enlarged by the birth of six children: Donald A., born November 7, 1900; Ida E., April 12, 1904; Mabel A., July 28, 1906; Verne E., July 25, 1911; Edgar R., July 14, 1913; and Dorothy M., March 11, 1918. Donald A. is now engaged in assisting his father on the home farm. Ida E. is a student in the Plainview high school. The family is affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**August Schulz**, proprietor of a model farm in sections 10 and 15, Plainview Township, was born in Germany August 19, 1858, son of William and Louisa Schulz. Both the parents died in Germany, in which country August received his education. In 1885 he came to America, locating on Greenwood Prairie, this county, and for one year worked for William Schulz, and two seasons for Mr. Mahon, and one year for Henry Wedge. At the end of that time he began his independent career as a farmer, buying 80 acres of land in Winona County. Later he purchased more land until he had 155 acres there. In 1909 Mr. Schulz bought a farm of 90 acres in section 12, Plainview Township, which he operated for three years. His next removal brought him to his present farm of 200 acres in sections 10 and 15, which he purchased. In 1912 he sold his Winona County farm and also the 90-acre farm in Plainview Township. On his present place he has made great improvements, having built a fine residence, equipped in modern style with running water, furnace heat, bath and electric lights; and

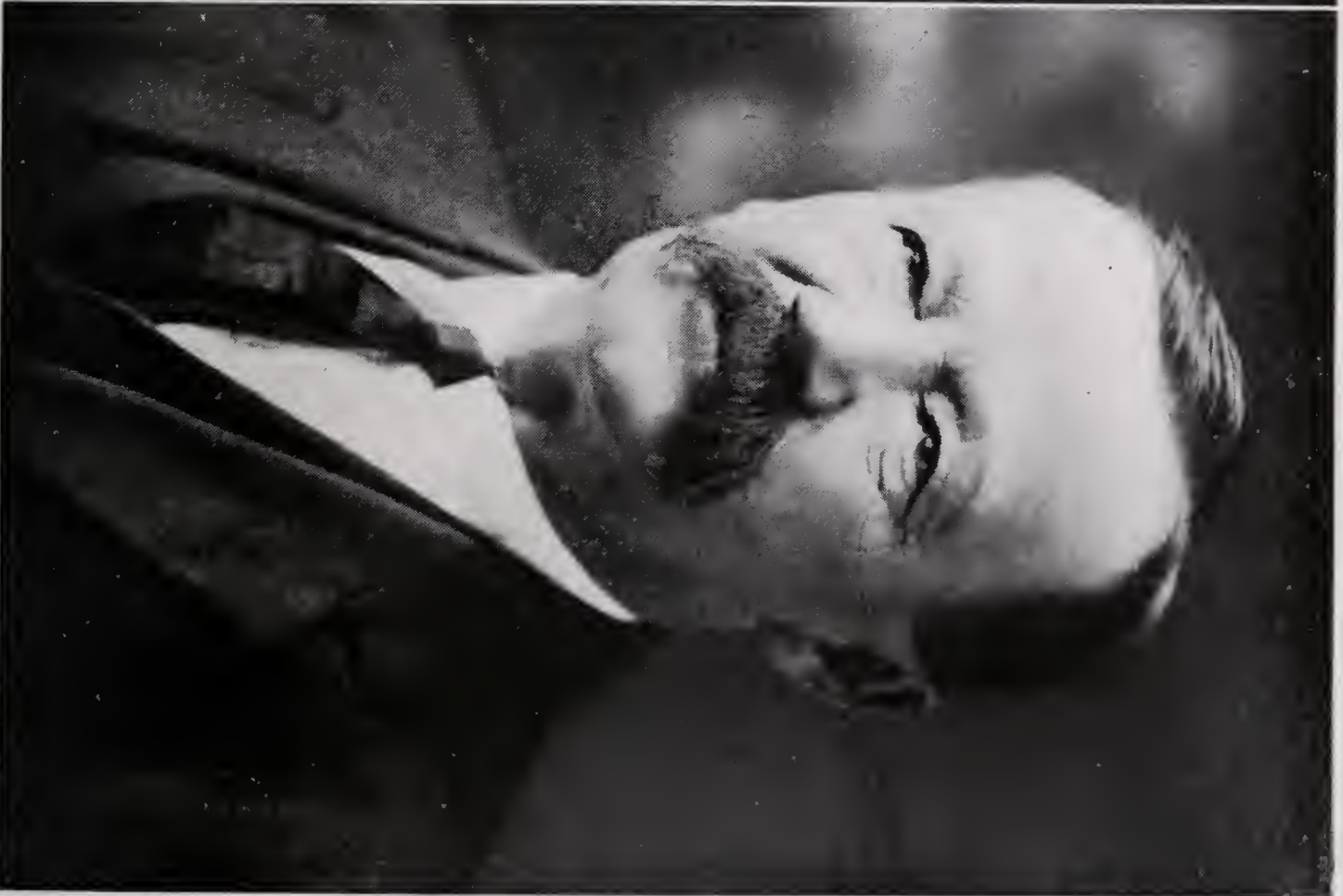


has also erected a milk house with an electrically-driven washing machine and separator; a silo, machine sheds, and a power house. He has also fenced 160 acres of his farm with woven wire fencing. His herds of grade Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine have full blooded sires at their head, and his farm produce finds a quick and profitable market. Mr. Schulz is a member of the local creamery and shipping associations. He is one of the elders and was formerly a trustee of the Lutheran church. On April 29, 1890, he was married to Bertha Becker, who was born in Niekosken, Germany, August 5, 1869. To Mr. and Mrs. Schulz six children have been born: Otto, born in Whitewater Township, Winona County, July 14, 1891; Lena, born September 27, 1893, who died December 26, 1893; Adolph, born January 17, 1895; Anna, December 21, 1899; Edwin, August 12, 1903; and Arthur, October 12, 1906. Otto, who is a carpenter now residing in Colby, Wis., served with the rank of sergeant in the World War.

**Alois Holzer**, one of the pioneer settlers in Watopa and Elgin townships, was born in Baden, Germany, and there grew to manhood. After his marriage to Sophia Stehle, he set out with his wife, in 1856, for the United States, and on arriving in Minnesota, located in Wabasha village. In his native land he had learned the trade of cooper, but his mechanical acquirements in that line being of little or no use to him here at that time, he took a claim of 160 acres of wild land in Watopa Township, and began to carve out a living from the soil. After three years he removed to Elgin Township, where he bought 160 acres of land that was partly broken. Continuing the improvements, in time he developed a fine farm, on which he lived until about 1885, when he sold it and retired, subsequently making his home in Wabasha, where he died November 25, 1899. His wife survived him several years, passing away January 8, 1904. Their children, five in number, were: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Joseph Fugina, of Fountain City, Wis.; Wilhelmina, now deceased, who was the wife of Lyman Gregg; Adolph D., a resident of Plainview; and Mary, who married W. F. Hobbs and lives in Eau Claire, Wis.

**Adolph D. Holzer**, whose former enterprise as a developer of farm lands secured him an ample competence on which he is now living in the Village of Plainview, was born in Baden, Germany, April 6, 1847, son of Alois and Sophia (Stehle) Holzer. At the age of about nine years he accompanied his parents to the United States, and remained with them on their farms in Watopa and Elgin townships until 1875, his education in the meanwhile having been continued in the district schools. In 1876 he bought a farm in Elgin Township, an improved tract of 120 acres in section 7, which he still further developed, and finally sold at a profit in 1883. His next farming venture was in section 5, Oakwood Township, where he bought 80 acres, to which he added 120 acres of wild land in Oakwood and 160 in Elgin, uniting all the land into one farm, on which he erected a complete set of substantial buildings, put up fencing, and installed modern machinery. There he engaged in general farming, continuing to develop the property until 1905, when, finding himself in comfortable circumstances, he retired and bought a comfortable residence in Plainview, where he has since made his home. He rents the farm to his two sons, Clayton and Edgar. It will thus be seen that Mr. Holzer has been the architect and builder of his own fortunes, and that what he has he owes to his own foresight and individual exertions, plus the assistance of his wife and children. His has been the guiding hand, and his the larger part of the actual labor, but the reward has been commensurate with the exertions put forth. He has always been noted as a good citizen, and though his private concerns made heavy demands upon his time, he served for 13 years in school office. Mr. Holzer was married December 5, 1875, to Chloe A. Marshall, who was born in Elgin Township, this county, November 20, 1857, being the eldest member in a family of sixteen children. Mr. and Mrs. Holzer have had six children: Clayton L., born September 9, 1876; Mary A., April 27, 1878; Flora E., April 30, 1880; Ella





MR. AND MRS. A. D. HOIZER







D., September 12, 1881; Edgar R., December 8, 1883; and Harry E., July 30, 1890. As already mentioned, Clayton L. and Edgar R. are now engaged in operating the old home farm. Clayton married Theresa Simon, and has two children, Kenneth and Franklin. Mary A. is residing with her parents. Flora E., who married Albert Koenig, died November 13, 1918. Ella D. is the wife of John Simon and resides with her husband on the old Marshall place in Elgin Township. She has two children, Ward and Mabel. Harry E. is now living in eastern Saskatchewan, Canada, where he is following the occupation of a barber. The family attends the Congregational church, and Mrs. Holzer is a member of the Eastern Star Chapter and of the G. A. R. Circle in Plainview.

**William L. Blattner**, a representative citizen of Oakwood Township, of which he is one of the officials, was born in Long Creek in this township, September 16, 1875, son of John Henry and Lena Blattner. He received such education as was afforded by the district schools of his day, and then took up farming at home, where he grew to manhood. At the age of 21 years he branched out for himself, purchasing a farm of 80 acres in section 20, Oakwood Township, on which there were few or no improvements in the shape of buildings. He at once set to work with a stout heart and strong hands, and soon the appearance of the place began to improve with the erection of buildings, and is now an ideal farm, with a fine residence, large and commodious outbuildings for the housing of his crops and stock. In addition, he has erected a new, large barn, with a full basement of hollow tile, 36 by 90 feet in dimensions. Aside from his original 80 acres he has 50 acres more which he rents and works with the rest of his farm. As a general farmer he is meeting with good success, breeding Shorthorn cattle of good grade, Chester-White hogs and Shropshire sheep. As a citizen he is known and respected throughout the township, and in 1919 was elected a member of the Oakwood town board. Twenty-four years ago Mr. Blattner assumed the responsibilities of domestic life, being united in marriage April 8, 1896, with Emma Schuchart, who was born at Millville, Wabasha County, Minn., April 10, 1880, daughter of John and Atillia (Lehman) Schuchart. Her father died January 12, 1912, and her mother is now a resident of Millville. To Mr. and Mrs. Blattner eight children have been born: Walter, March 4, 1898; Frank, April 14, 1901; Clara, February 3, 1903; Andrew, October 28, 1905; Anna, July 19, 1907; Alfred, September 19, 1909; William, Jr., March 8, 1912, and Irene, May 17, 1916. All the children are residing on the home farm. Mr. Blattner and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Christian Brueshaber**, proprietor of a well-equipped and productive farm in section 2, West Albany Township, and a man well known and respected, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, December 16, 1850, son of Frederick and Louise Brueshaber, the father being owner and operator of a 200-acre farm, on which young Christian was brought up to agricultural work. At the age of 15 he left school. Three years of his subsequent life were spent in the German army, after which he returned to the parental farm. At the age of 25 he was superintendent on a large farm in Germany, where he spent four years. The next four years were spent on the home farm. Then in 1883 he came to America, landing at New York September 12. Near Buffalo resided an uncle of his, Christ Brueshaber, with whom he spent a year and a half. Then coming west, he reached Lake City, Wabasha County, Minn., April 9, 1885. Employment was soon found, and for a year and a half he worked on the farm of Ed Wise in Mt. Pleasant Township, and for John Danckwart in West Albany Township. On September 29, 1886, Mr. Brueshaber married Ida Haase, born September 5, 1865, daughter of John and Minnie (Lange) Haase of West Albany Township, and rented the Gotleib Moechnig farm in West Albany, where he and his wife resided four years. He next rented and moved to the farm on which he still lives in section 2, West Albany, a farm of 120 acres, which he bought after a two or three years' residence on it. It has been improved by him to a consid-



erable extent, the improvements including the rebuilding of the house, which is now a good dwelling of eight rooms; the erection of a frame barn, 36 by 60 by 16 feet, with full 8-foot basement; and a machine shed, 22 by 40 feet. The farm has now a good set of buildings, and is pleasantly situated, the surroundings being beautified by evergreens set out by Mr. Brueshaber. It is six and a half miles southeast of Lake City. Mr. Brueshaber raises both stock and grain, his cattle being of the Shorthorn variety. He has been a hard worker, and has accomplished gratifying results; but he has never been robust and owing to his somewhat indifferent health, he now leaves the active operation of the farm to his eldest son Henry, who was born June 15, 1887. The other children are as follows: Laura Wilhelmina, born May 31, 1890, now Mrs. Frank Vomastic of Lake City; Minnie Marietta, born May 31, 1893; Margaret Adeline, born May 18, 1900; Marie Emily, born August 8, 1901. The family are members of St. Johns German Lutheran congregation at Lake City.

**Patrick Shields** was for many years a familiar figure in Wabasha County life. All who knew this genial old man of Erin's soil were charmed with his lovable personality, and his wont was to scatter sunshine in the daily lives of all with whom he came in contact. He was one of the few remaining pioneers of this section. It is said that when he first came here there were but a few buildings in Plainview, and those small and primitive. During his early life on Greenwood Prairie he endured many hardships. But though he was in no better circumstances than his neighbors, he believed in a full observance of all the amenities of cultured life, and he took pride in presenting a neat and trim appearance. For his was a will full of courage, and he labored incessantly until he had accumulated a competence. No one knew Pat Shields, as he was lovingly called, but to honor and respect him. He was a man among men, honorable in all his dealings, and honest to a fault. Best of all he was of that happy, jovial disposition that spread happiness, and brightness wherever he chanced to be. A true friend who never forgot a kind act or word, ever ready to assist the needy, and do for others in less fortunate circumstances, he could not countenance a wrong. Although he had nearly attained his eighty-seventh birthday; those who were not aware of the fact could not realize his advanced years. Spry, active and buoyant it was his pleasure to announce that he was still young and active. That he is missed by young and old need not be said. There are few who can number more friends than he. He was a devoted member of the Catholic church, independent in politics, thought and deed. He died January 1, 1918. His time had come and he was willing to go, for he had often expressed the desire that when he became feeble he might not linger longer on this earth. Patrick Shields was born in Daylstown, County Galway, Ireland, in 1831, son of Stephen and Bridget (Laylor) Shields, who lived on a small farm. The original family name was Shiel, several of that name having taken a prominent part in the early history of Ireland. Patrick was reared as a farmer. At the age of twenty-two he came to the United States and found employment at the cotton mills of Manchester, N. H. In 1858 he came west to Fox Lake, Wis., where he resumed his former occupation as a farmer. At about the outbreak of Civil War he came to Wabasha County, and bought out a squatter on section 30, Highland Township. By strenuous effort and self sacrifice, he developed this farm until four years later when he was enabled to sell it for \$2,000 in cash, a very comfortable sum in those days. Then he purchased a farm in section 29, in the same township. To this he later added an eighty-acre tract in sections 20 and 21. With the passage of the years he acquired a competence, and was held in high regard by his neighbors and associates as a man of honesty and uprightness, rich in the possession of an untarnished name. Patrick Shields was married in Manchester, N. H., to Margaret Beegan, also a native of County Galway. This union has been blessed with five children: Elizabeth, John, Margaret, Hanore and Mary. Elizabeth was born in Manchester, N. H., January 14, 1855, married









PATRICK SHIELDS



JOHN WELTI



Thomas Rodney, and died November 17, 1884; John was born in Fox Lake, Wis., February 5, 1858, and died November 7, 1918. Margaret was born at Fox Lake, Wis., October 12, 1859, and married John Curran, now of Highland Township. Hanore was born in Highland Township, July 30, 1861, and married G. L. Carpenter, now of Oakwood Township. Mary was born in Highland Township, September 29, 1867, and is the wife of Philip Welti, of Plainview. Mrs. Shields attended faithfully to the duties of her household, and was her husband's sympathetic helpmeet in all his undertakings. She was a faithful wife and a dutiful mother, and her death July 9, 1895, was sincerely mourned.

**John Welti**, pioneer farmer, came to this county in 1855 and spent nearly all of the remainder of his years in Oakwood Township. He was an honest, industrious man, a good neighbor and true friend. His word was as good as his bond and he was respected by all who knew him. By hard and persistent effort he opened a large farm, and had his part in the upbuilding of the community in which he lived. A native of Switzerland, he was born December 9, 1826. In 1855 he came to Minnesota, and engaged in business at Wabasha. From there he moved to a farm in Snake Valley, Watopa Township, this county. About 1858 he secured 120 acres in Oakwood Township, this county, and here spent the remainder of his life. To the original track he added 80 acres, making a good farm of 200 acres, which he developed and improved, and where he attained a competence, bringing it from a wild stretch of prairie to a well-cultivated, well-fenced place, with substantial buildings and good equipment of tools, implements and machinery. After a long and useful life, he died July 12, 1903. Mr. Welti was married at Wabasha, May 28, 1856, to Mary Frank, who was born in Germany in 1830, came to America as a young woman, with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Philip Frank, and lived with them in Watopa Township until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Welti had ten children: John, of Oakwood Township; Mary, wife of John Schumann, of Elgin; Christina, now Mrs. Ernest Stoll, of Elgin; Fred, of Winona; Elizabeth, wife of Herman Schmeling, of Winona; Philip and Henry, twins, of Plainview; Emma, living on the home farm; William of Rochester, and Jacob, living on the home farm.

**Philip Welti**, a well-known resident of Plainview, was born in Oakwood Township, this county, March 4, 1865, son of John and Mary (Frank) Welti. He attended the schools of his neighborhood and assisted on the home farm. As a young man he purchased 80 acres in section 29, Highland Township, this county, and to this he later added another 80 acres not far away. In addition to operating his own place he rented from time to time so that each year he farmed extensively. He carried on general farming successfully, but made a specialty of stock raising. He was a breeder and dealer, raising, buying and selling. He was especially well known for his fine Percheron horses and for his excellent drove of sheep. In the summer of 1919, he sold one farm and moved to Plainview, where he has a beautiful modern home. Mr. Welti is a member of the M. W. A. and the K. of C. He is a prominent member of St. Joachim's Catholic Church. Mr. Welti is a man who is always ready and willing to give comfort and aid to those in less fortunate circumstances. He is well known and liked by old and young, for his kindness, possessing a sterling character and excellent reputation. Mr. Welti was married October 7, 1901, to Mary Shields, born September 29, 1867, daughter of Patrick and Margaret (Beegan) Shields, and this union has been blessed with two children: Mary Evelyn, born December 24, 1902, and Patrick James, born August 24, 1905, both attending school.

**Henry J. Wurst**, whose farm of 190 acres lies partly in Oakwood and partly in Elgin Township, was born in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, April 27, 1862. His parents, Vincent and Amalia (Gregor) Wurst, were born in Austria, but married in Wisconsin, and came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1860, locating on the northwest quarter of section 33, Oakwood Township. The land was wild and years of pioneer work and hardship lay before them, but in time they



developed a farm, Mr. Wurst erecting a house and outbuildings, and breaking and cultivating his land. His wife died in 1882, and he survived her many years, passing away in 1905. They had five children: Henry J., subject of this sketch; Alvena, now Mrs. Herman Plattner of Elgin Township; Matilda, who is deceased; Joseph L., of Rochester, Minn., and Rosa, who married Edward Meiser and lives in Missouri. Henry J. Wurst as a boy attended District School No. 85, Elgin Township. He remained on the home farm until 29 years old, after which for three years he operated a rented farm in Elgin Township. He then returned to the home farm, which he conducted for eleven years. About 1905 he bought his present farm, or rather, 110 acres of it, 70 acres lying in section 2, Elgin, and 40 in section 35, Oakwood. Later he bought 80 acres adjoining in section 35, Oakwood, thus bringing the area of his farm to 190 acres. His residence and buildings are in Elgin Township. He has remodeled the house, erected a good barn and outbuildings, and made other improvements, adding much to the value of his property, and is following general farming with profitable results. He raises Poll Angus cattle, mostly for beef purposes, also Durcc-Jersey hogs, and white leghorn poultry, and is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America, while in politics he is a Republican. Mr. Wurst was united in marriage, April 9, 1890, with Dora Springer, who was born in Oakwood Township, this county, June 23, 1870, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Springer. Of this union there are three children, namely: Clarence L., born January 7, 1892, now a farmer in Oakwood Township, who married Vivian La Rocque, and has two children, one son, Maurice O., and daughter, Bertha; Josephine B., born January 16, 1894, wife of Ole Olson of Oakwood, has one daughter, Helen Dorothy; and Carol J., born January 19, 1900, who is assisting his father on the home farm. Mr. Wurst and his family are members of the Lutheran church and are socially popular.

**Caleb W. Olin**, who has taken rank among the successful farmers of Oakwood Township, was born in Jackson County, Minn., December 13, 1873, son of John A. and Mary (Hanson) Olin. The parents were natives of Norway who were married in this country. John A. Olin served three years in the Civil War in a volunteer infantry regiment. After the war he and his wife settled in Jackson County, Minn., whence he later removed to Belvidere, Goodhue County, and still later, in 1885, to Wabasha County. In sections 21 and 29, Oakwood Township, he bought 160 acres of land, to which he subsequently added 93 acres on Long Creek, in section 28 of the same township. His first wife, Mrs. Mary Olin died about 1876, when her son, Caleb, was about three years old, and John A. Olin subsequently married Mrs. Rosa (Olson) Helgeron, who is still living. He continued farming at the same location until his death, which occurred in March, 1909. By his second wife he had two children: Edna, now residing in Minneapolis; and Phoebe, now Mrs. Carl Polson of Millville. Caleb W. Olin acquired his education in District School No. 44, Oakwood Township, this county. After he became industrially active he went to Brainerd, Crow Wing County, where he remained for one winter. From there he went to Cass County, Minn., where he took a homestead of 160 acres, working on it and improving it for about seven years. His next removal was to Stutsman County, N. D., and there he continued farming for six years. At the end of that time he returned to the home farm in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, which he rented and operated on his own account until 1914. He then bought the original tract of 160 acres, and later the 93-acre tract, so that he now owns the old home farm, and in addition works 80 acres belonging to his uncle, Bent Olin. He has made a number of improvement on his place, and has made plans for erecting a good modern barn in 1921. As a general farmer and stock raiser he is meeting with good success, breeding Durham cattle and Chester-White swine. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator and in the Shipping Association at Millville, and is also serving as clerk of School Board









DR. EMERY H. BAYLEY



District No. 44—the district in which he attended school as a boy. On April 9, 1896, Mr. Olin was united in marriage with Blanche Leeper, of Oakwood, who was born in Fremont, Neb., in 1870. He and his wife are the parents of eight children: Lela, now Mrs. William Polson; Alice, who graduated from the Wabasha high school in the class of 1917, and is now a teacher; Bessie, a graduate of the same high school in the class of 1920; Arthur, who is assisting his father on the home farm; and John, Bernice, Harold and Hazel Marie. Mr. Olin and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Emery H. Bayley, M. D.**, a medical and surgical practitioner of long experience and recognized ability who has followed his profession in Lake City for the last 25 years, was born at Vernon, Waukesha County, Wis., November 5, 1865, son of Herbert O. and Emma A. Bayley. The father, who was born in 1848, became a farmer and is still following that occupation at Lake Beulah, Wis. The mother died December 5, 1865, when her son, Emery, was but one month old. Emery H. Bayley acquired his elementary education in the common schools of Vernon, which he attended until the age of 15 years. He then spent one winter at Carroll College, Waukesha, Wis., and afterwards for three years the Greeley high school at Greeley, Colo., graduating in 1886. He then entered the University of Colorado, from which he was graduated with the B. L. degree in 1890. His graduation from Rush Medical College, Chicago, took place in 1893, and he subsequently served as interne in the Asbury M. E. Hospital at Minneapolis. He then came to Lake City, opened an office, and has since built up a large practice and won a high reputation both as a physician and as a useful and interested citizen. For a number of years he has been president of the City Board of Health. He is also president of the Wabasha County Board of Health; president of the Wabasha County Tubercular Sanatorium at Wabasha; president of the Lake City Board of Education, and vice president of the Citizens Bank of Lake City, in all of which positions he has proved himself an energetic and capable man of affairs, with an eye for the public good. Politically he has always been a Republican. In the Masonic order he has advanced as far as the Commandery, and belongs also to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and other societies, being examining physician for several benefit orders. Dr. Bayley was married, January 3, 1896, to Catherine Covell, who was born at Roscoe, Ill., December 27, 1867, daughter of G. W. and Jennie Covell, then of Maquoketa, Ia. She was a graduate of the Rockford Seminary, at Rockford, Ill., and for 4 years previous to her marriage was principal of the high school at Lake City. Dr. and Mrs. Bayley are the parents of three children: Emery Covell, born February 13, 1899, who was graduated from the Lake City high school and is now a student of Carleton College, at Northfield, Minn.; Anna Pauline, born May 5, 1902, now a student in the Lake City high school; and Ralph, born April 4, 1905, who is attending school in Lake City. The family occupy a neat and comfortable residence on High street, which the doctor purchased some years ago. They are members of the Congregational church and among its most active workers.

**Albert Olson**, a prominent representative of the farming interests of Oakwood Township, where he ranks among the well to do citizens, is a native of Wabasha County, born in October, 1859, a son of Ole and Anna Olson. The parents, natives of Norway, were among the earliest settlers in this county, arriving in the United States in 1849, coming west to Minnesota, and settling on Indian Creek, where they in time, by dint of hard work and perseverance, established a good farm. In 1908 they retired and took their residence with their son Albert, at whose home the father died in 1913. The mother died in 1912. Albert Olson's earliest years were passed amid pioneer scenes, which had changed but little by the time he began to attend the rural log schoolhouse. After that followed years of hard work on the home farm, on which he assisted his father, at the same time acquiring a good practical knowledge of agriculture, stock raising, and other branches of the industry, at first by means of



primitive methods, machinery being only gradually introduced. As a partner with his brother William, he operated the home farm, to the area of which they added until it included 600 acres, and as stock raisers they branched out extensively, keeping as many as 100 head of cattle. In 1894 Albert bought his present farm of 200 acres in sections 22 and 15—a fine piece of property on which he has built a good residence and barn. He continued actively engaged in its operation until the spring of 1920, when he rented the place to his son Bert, who is proving a capable manager. Poll Angus cattle are raised for beef purposes, and registered Chester-White swine are also bred. Mr. Olson is one of the directors of the State Bank of Millville, and the Farmers' Elevator at Millville. As a citizen active in local interests, he has served as a member of the school board of his district. In October, 1892, Mr. Olson was married to Jennie Polson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emerick Polson. To him and his wife three children have been born: Jonas N., Mary and Bert. The last mentioned married Vida Nelson, who are living on the home place in a new house erected in 1920 for them by his father. The Olson family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church, while politically Mr. Olson is a Republican.

**John Gregor**, an early settler in Elgin Township, and now residing in Elgin Village, was born in Austria in 1842, son of John and Amalia Gregor. The father dying in Austria, his widow married Adolph Bartosch, and in 1852 John Gregor accompanied his mother and step-father to the United States, the family settling in Jefferson County, Wis., where the mother finally died. At the age of 17 years John Gregor began working out and supporting himself. In 1865 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating in Elgin Township, where for awhile he continued to work out. In 1868 he engaged in agriculture for himself, buying 220 acres in the southwest quarter of section 3. There he resided for nearly 40 years, building up a good farm, and retiring to take up his residence in the village in 1907. His success was accomplished by hard work, and he was long widely known and recognized as one of the representative farmers of his township. He also served many years as justice of the peace, assessor and town clerk, being closely affiliated with the work of local government. During most of this time he was aided by the companionship and co-operation of a good wife, having been married, January 21, 1867, to Rosa Wurst, who died in 1902. They became the parents of eight children: Joseph, now of Hancock, Minn.; Jay, residing on the home farm; John, of Beardsley, Minn.; James A., of Oakwood Township; William, of Elgin; Jesse, of Browns Valley, Minn.; Ida, now Mrs. Joseph Mareck, of Elkton, S. D.; and Rosa, who resides in Elgin.

**James A. Gregor**, a prosperous farmer residing in section 16, Oakwood Township, was born in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., July 15, 1882, son of John and Rose (Wurst) Gregor. His education was acquired in the district school, and he worked on his parents' farm until he was 21 years old. Then he bought his present farm of 230 acres in section 16, Oakwood Township, which he has improved considerably, having put up every building on the place except the house and the barn, which he remodeled, making it 36 by 80 feet, with a full basement. His farm is well stocked with Shorthorn cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and a good grade of sheep, and he follows diversified farming with good financial results. He is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association, and is affiliated in either a business or fraternal way with the Massachusetts Mutual Insurance Co., the Equitable Fraternal Union of Wabasha, and the Modern Woodmen of America at Millville. Mr. Gregor was married February 23, 1905, to Elizabeth Shade, who was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, June 23, 1884. He and his wife have one child, Beulah R., who was born October 30, 1916. They are affiliated religiously with the Evangelical Lutheran church.

**John D. Siem**, cashier of the First State Bank of Elgin, Minn., was born on a farm in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, December 9, 1872, son of Claus









CLARENCE A. HUBBARD



H. and Marguerite (Reimers) Siem. The father was a native of Germany and the mother of Blue Island, near Chicago, Ill. They were married in this country and came to Minnesota in 1870. Seven of their children are now living, five sons and two daughters, namely: Lizzie, Emma, John Henry, George, Arthur, Edward R., and John D. Lizzie, who married Frank Richardson, resides in Elgin; Emma is the wife of Byron Rice of South Dakota; George is employed in a general store in Elgin; Arthur is assistant cashier of the Clark County National Bank, in Clark County, S. D.; Edward R., who resides in Elgin, enlisted in the U. S. navy and served 26 months in the World War, being stationed at Bordeaux, France, and was honorably discharged in 1919.

John D. Siem was reared on his parents' farm and educated in the district and public schools of Elgin Township and village. Becoming clerk in a general store in Elgin, he worked there nine months, and was subsequently employed for three months in a clothing store in Rochester. Then returning home, he bought a half interest in a hardware store, which was operated for 13 years under the style of Searles & Siem, and later for four years, owing to a change of partners, under that of Siem & Bortz. Mr. Siem then sold his interest in the business and bought a general store, which he operated for four years, or until 1916, when he took the position as assistant cashier of the First State Bank, becoming cashier in January, 1920. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the Odd Fellows, and served one year as president of the village board of Elgin. As a business man and citizen he has made a good reputation, and is an influential member of the community. Mr. Siem was married at Elgin in 1900, to Nellie M., daughter of Walter and Helen Dunn, who were early settlers in Wabasha County, and farmers by occupation. Both her parents are now deceased. They had one son and five daughters, all of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Siem have two sons: Walter, born December 2, 1901, and Wyatt B., born in 1902. Walter is now a clerk in the J. A. Saufal general store, residing at home, while Wyatt is living on the farm of his uncle, Henry G. Schroeder.

Clarence A. Hubbard, president of the Lake City Bank from 1907 to 1919, and who for half a century had been connected with that institution throughout its various phases, was born in Ingham County, Mich., November 4, 1844, son of John I. and Lucy L. (Smith) Hubbard. The parents, natives of New York state, were descended from old New England stock, and both families had members who figured prominently in the Revolutionary War. In June, 1853, the subject of this sketch accompanied his parents to Winona, Minn., thereby becoming a youthful pioneer of this state. In 1858 he returned to Michigan and for two years was a pupil in a school in Lansing, taking an academic course. In 1860 he was back in Winona, where he entered the normal school. The breaking out of the Civil War put an end to his studies there, as he soon enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Infantry, as a member of which organization he served on the frontier during the Sioux uprising, and was later on the staffs of Generals R. N. McLean and H. H. Sibley. Honorably discharged at the close of the war, he settled in Lake City, where, until 1869, he was engaged in the grain and commission business. In that year he entered the banking business with C. W. Hackett & Co., as cashier, and on the organization of the Lake City Bank in 1871, an outgrowth of the previous institution, he became one of its directors, and was subsequently connected with its fortunes until his death on April 4, 1919, the last twelve years of his life being spent as its president. His record was clean and honorable, and for many years he was a potent factor in the development of the community in which he made his home. An ever-ready worker, he lent his aid and influence to the furtherance of all practical plans for the benefit of the city, whether moral or material, and his charities were numerous and liberal. He was for many years a consistent member of the Congregational church, and was affiliated fraternally with the Masons and Knights of Pythias. His work had great and permanent results, and he will



long be remembered as one of the notable pioneers and upbuilders of this community. Mr. Hubbard was twice married; and by his first wife had one son, William Adelbert, who was long associated with him in business and is now the president of the Lake City Bank of Minnesota. The only child of the second marriage was Florence Blanchard, now residing in California with her mother.

**William A. Hubbard**, president of the Lake City Bank of Minnesota, was born in Lake City, Minn., August 9, 1867, son of Clarence A. Hubbard. His literary education was acquired chiefly in the public and high schools of this city, and was supplemented by a course at the Hoboken School of Technology at Hoboken, N. J. He then took up the machinist's trade, which he followed for five years at Brooklyn, N. Y., after which he returned to Lake City and entered the employ of the Lake City Bank as clerk. In 1907 he was tendered the position of cashier, which he accepted, and filled efficiently until May 1, 1919, when he was elected president, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his father, Clarence A. Hubbard. He is also interested in several other local enterprises, and is an active member of the Lake City Commercial Club, which he served both as vice-president and treasurer. During this country's participation in the World War, he took an active part in all the loan drives and other war work, and was county chairman for the sale of treasury certificates of indebtedness during and since the war. He is also one of the prominent working members of the Congregational church. In short, Mr. Hubbard's career has been one of intense activity along various lines bearing directly on the welfare and progress of the community, and he has accomplished some valuable, and in all probability, permanent results. Fraternally he is a member of Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, A. F. & A. M., of Lake City, of which he is past master; and is also a Knight Templar and thirty-second degree Mason, being past commander and past high priest. In addition to the above mentioned branches of the order, he belongs to Lake City Chapter, No. 75, O. E. S., of which he is past patron. Mr. Hubbard was married June 9, 1897, to Mabel Schmitz of Winona. He and his wife have had two children: Anna, born May 31, 1910; and Lincoln, who died in infancy.

**John Bernard Schmidt**, a well known merchant operating a general store at Theilman, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., January 19, 1880, son of Charles and Anna (Wolfe) Schmidt. The parents were natives of Hanover, Germany, and came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1870. They were married here and engaged in farming in Glasgow Township, where Mrs. Anna Schmidt is still living. Her husband, Charles Schmidt, died in Pepin Township, November 11, 1895. Their family contained nine children: Louise, now Mrs. Frank Passe, of Wabasha City; Christina, wife of Anton Passe, a farmer of Pepin Township; John Bernard, subject of this sketch; Anna, now deceased; Elizabeth, wife of William Goihl, a farmer of West Albany Township; Henry, who is residing on the old home farm with his mother; Mary, wife of Bernard Schmidt, a truck farmer of Wabasha City; Helen, wife of John Ramer, a Pepin Township farmer; and Josephine, who is living on the home farm. John Bernard Schmidt in his boyhood attended public school at Read's Landing up to the age of 14 years. Then, on his father's death, he being the eldest son at home, he left school to work the farm for his mother and remained on it until August 1, 1912. He then opened his present store at Theilman, and is carrying on a successful general mercantile business, occupying a commodious brick building. He is also a stockholder in the Greenfield Farmers Telephone Company. While residing on the farm he served six years as a member of the town board, for two years being chairman. He has also served as a member and treasurer of the school board. Politically he is a Democrat, and in religion a Catholic, being a member of St. Joseph's parish, of which for a time he was a trustee. On August 27, 1912, Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage with Clara Louise, daughter of Nicholas and Anna Reil, of Theilman. She died of



influenza November 18, 1918, leaving two children, Margaret, born August 31, 1914; and Victor, born June 30, 1917.

**Frederick Sass**, an early settler in West Albany Township, who took effective part in its agricultural development, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, June 7, 1833. The first thirty years of his life were spent in his native land, and he was there married in the spring of 1863, to Mary Prueter. He and his bride at once came to America, arriving in Wabasha County, Minn., in June the same year, practically destitute of funds. Their object was to found a home, and accordingly, Mr. Sass homesteaded 120 acres of wild prairie land in section 21, West Albany Township. Strict economy was necessary, and even with that it was hard to get along, but progress was gradually made, and both worked together looking forward hopefully to a prosperous future, which in due time was realized. Mr. Sass broke and developed his land, also buying 80 additional acres, and erected a good set of buildings, and he continued to reside here until his death October 4, 1915. His wife is now living with their son, Louis, on the old farm. The other children of Mr. and Mrs. Sass were: Amelia, now Mrs. Peter Schwirtz, her husband being a farmer at Theilman, Wabasha County; Augusta, wife of Charles Struckmyer, a farmer of West Albany Township; Mary, who married F. W. Moechnig of West Albany Township, and is now deceased; Edward, a resident of Lake City; Frederick A., a prosperous farmer of section 13, West Albany Township.

**Frederick A. Sass**, of West Albany Township, who has attained prosperity through enterprising effort in the development of farms, was born in this township April 8, 1870, son of Frederick and Mary (Prueter) Sass. He was educated in the common schools, which he attended up to the age of 15, and outside of school hours he worked for the most part on his parents' farm, remaining at home until 1890. On January 15, that year, he married Amelia Moechnig, daughter of Frederick and Caroline Moechnig of West Albany Township. He then rented the Tracy farm in the same township and operated it for two years, afterward moving to the Abbott Smith farm in Gillford Township, where he remained until 1901. His next removal was to the Hentze farm in West Albany, which was his home for five years. In 1906 Mr. Sass bought 120 acres of improved land in Glasgow Township and for some time rented it out to a tenant. In 1906 he bought a 160-acre farm in section 13, West Albany, which had fair buildings, and operated this in connection with the farm of 120 acres in Glasgow Township, building on the West Albany farm a good frame barn 36 by 76 by 16 feet, with full 9-foot basement; two machine sheds, 24 by 40, and did diversified farming until the fall of 1918, when he leased the place to his son, Lawrence. This farm is well stocked with grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine, with full-blooded sires; and in addition has a first-class operating equipment. Mr. Sass owns a five-passenger Dort auto car, and also a nice residence at No. 522 South High street, Lake City. He and his wife have five children: Elsie, born March 3, 1891, now Mrs. Ferdinand Brunkow of Gillford Township; Lawrence E., born March 22, 1894, who is operating the home farm in section 13, Albany Township; Caroline, born November 21, 1895, who is the wife of Arnum Zickrick of West Albany Township; Grace, born October 5, 1897, now Mrs. Earl Jones of Weaver, this county; and Esther, born February 4, 1905, who is a student in the high school. Mr. Sass is a Republican in politics and has served six years as a member of the district school board. He is a director of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Co., and he and his family are members of the German M. E. church of West Albany, of which they are liberal supporters. In November, 1919, Mr. Sass moved to Lake City, where he now lives retired.

**Lawrence E. Sass**, an active and enterprising young farmer who is operating his father's farm in section 13, West Albany Township, was born in this township March 22, 1894, son of Frederick A. and Amelia (Moechnig) Sass. He was educated in District School No. 1 in the Scotch Settlement, and has



always been associated in agricultural work with his father. On the latter's retirement in 1918, he leased the farm from him, but owns the stock and operating equipment. He is carrying on diversified farming very successfully, keeping grade Shorthorn cattle, and has a herd of 30 to 40 swine. In 1917 he was engaged in operating the Christ Fick farm in Lake Township. Mr. Sass was married March 4, 1919, to Odelia Catherine, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Witte) Wallerich, of Glasgow Township. They have one son, Lyle E., born April 5, 1920. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church of Theilman.

**Lucas M. Kuehn**, an enterprising and well known merchant of Wabasha City, who has also been a factor in local politics, was born near Alma, Buffalo County, Wis., March 27, 1870. His parents were Marcus and Caroline (Kunkel) Kuehn, who came to this country from Germany at an early date, homesteading 160 acres of wild land in the location above mentioned, on which they built a log cabin with a hard clay floor. It was in this cabin that their son, Lucas M., was born. After remaining on the Buffalo County farm until 1879, Marcus Kuehn sold out and moved with his family to Wabasha City, Minn., where, in association with his son, he opened a butcher shop, which he carried on until 1904. He then sold the business and moved to Winona, where he engaged in the meat business on Mankato avenue. About 1907 he retired, and is now living in Winona, on Center street, near the Milwaukee depot. He and his wife had four children: Lucas M., who was the first born; Frank, who is living in Winona; Edith, now Mrs. Edward Kalskopf, of Milwaukee, Wis.; and Mary, now Mrs. Val Stahr of Winona. Lucas M. Kuehn was nine years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha. He attended St. Felix' parochial school, passing through the eight grades, and then entered the Wabasha high school, where he was a pupil up to the age of 16 years. With this mental equipment he began industrial life, engaging with the firm of Jewell & Schmidt of Wabasha to learn the tinner's trade. After remaining with them for three years, he entered the employ of the Kuehn Mercantile Co., of Wabasha, delivering goods. Subsequently he spent another three years in the employ of Jewell & Schmidt, and then again returned to the Kuehn Mercantile Co. On May 10, 1901, Mr. Kuehn entered into the grocery business in Wabasha, in company with Emil Arnes, under the firm name of Kuehn & Arnes. The partnership was continued up to June 7, 1905, when Mr. Kuehn bought his partner's interest in the business, and continued it alone. It developed to such an extent that after a number of years he felt the necessity of expansion, and accordingly, in April, 1919, he purchased the business block on Main street, which he occupied, and also the adjoining block, adding dry goods, shoes, ladies' wear and other linesto his stock. He is enjoying an excellent trade and his business is still growing, as the result of earnest endeavor, industry and fair dealing. Mr. Kuehn is a Republican in politics, and served the city two terms as alderman, showing a quick comprehension of local interests. He is a good musician, a member of the Wabasha Boosters' Band, and for a number of years has been a member of the city fire department. These various interests have identified him closely with the development of the city along various lines, in each of which he has proved his worth and ability. In November, 1897, Mr. Kuehn was married to Clara B., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Young, of Wabasha. She was born in Pepin County, Wis., July 3, 1877. The children of this marriage are: Clarence B., born July 13, 1898; Ethel M., born March 20, 1900; and Dorothy, born September 27, 1913. Clarence is now in business with his father; Ethel M., who was graduated from the Winona Business College in 1918, is now stenographer for the Wabasha County agricultural agent. Mr. Kuehn and his family are Catholics in religion, and members of St. Felix parish of Wabasha.

**Henry Sprick**, in former years an industrious farmer and esteemed citizen successively of Mt. Pleasant and West Albany townships, was born in Hanover, Germany, where he worked both as a farmer and distiller. About 1881 he came





LUCUS M. KUEHN AND FAMILY







to the United States with his wife, whose maiden name was Adelheid Bramer, and their only son and child, Christopher, then six years old. After arriving at Red Wing, Minn., Mr. Sprick settled with his family in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, and for a few years worked as a farm hand. By 1885 he had saved up \$500, and that year he rented the Wood farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, which he operated up to 1896. He then bought 160 acres in section 7, West Albany Township, this county, on which tract were a few buildings, including a small house. There he labored industriously and continued in agricultural pursuits until his death on October 24, 1905. His wife survived him a few years, passing away on the farm, October 5, 1912. Their son, Christopher, now owns the old home, which he has improved and developed.

**Christopher Sprick**, proprietor of a productive farm in section 7, West Albany Township, of which he is a substantial and respected citizen, was born in Hanover, Germany, October 9, 1875, son of Henry and Adelheid (Bramer) Sprick. He was six years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family first settling in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, and after that operating farms in Mt. Pleasant and West Albany townships, Wabasha County. Both are now deceased and he owns and resides on the last farm which they occupied, one of 160 acres, of which he has 110 acres under the plow, the balance being in timber and pasture. Mr. Sprick raises both grain and stock, having a herd of 20 to 30 Shorthorn cattle, including eleven milch cows, and a herd of 20 to 25 Duroc-Jersey swine, with full-blooded sires for both herds. He has a good operating equipment and also owns a Chevrolet five-passenger car. As an enterprising farmer, Mr. Sprick has made some valuable improvements on his place, having remodeled the house, which now contains nine rooms and is gas-lighted; built a barn, 38 by 50 by 20 feet, and a tile silo of 110 tons capacity. Through industry and frugality Mr. Sprick has conquered success and is one of the prosperous and respected citizens of his township. He has served efficiently in the office of school clerk. He was married September 25, 1906, to Margaretta, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Eckoff) Ehlers, of Lake Township, this county. She was born January 14, 1886, in Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County, and her parents are now living near Mazeppa, in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County. Mr. and Mrs. Sprick are the parents of five children, born as follows: Alvin Henry Peter, May 6, 1907; Walter Christopher William, February 19, 1909; Henrietta Wilhelmina Anna, December 8, 1911; Albert John Frederick, June 26, 1913; and Margaretta Alfrida Louise, August 23, 1916. Mr. Sprick and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, worshiping with the Jacksonville congregation in Gillford Township, which Mr. Sprick has served as trustee.

**John C. Schmidt**, a pioneer of West Albany Township, now deceased, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, September 7, 1833. He grew to manhood in his native land and was there married to Julia Lange, who was born March 5, 1831. For some years after their marriage he and his wife continued to reside in Germany, and there three children were born to them. In 1857 they emigrated to Minnesota, and entering Wabasha County at Read's Landing, proceeded to West Albany Township, where they took a claim of 160 acres of wild land. To these adventurous pioneers newly arrived from a highly populous and civilized land, their surroundings must have seemed strange, and at times depressing, or even sinister. The tangled wilderness lay before and around them, to be subdued and tamed to man's use only by long and herculean labor; their white neighbors were few and widely scattered, but the mysterious Red Man, of whom they had heard or read strange and terrible stories, was ever present or not far away; and when the evening shadows lengthened and night cast its mantle o'er glade and forest, the howling of wolves in the timber so close at hand, must have caused them to exchange many an uneasy glance, accompanied perhaps by inward forebodings. Such, doubtless, were their first



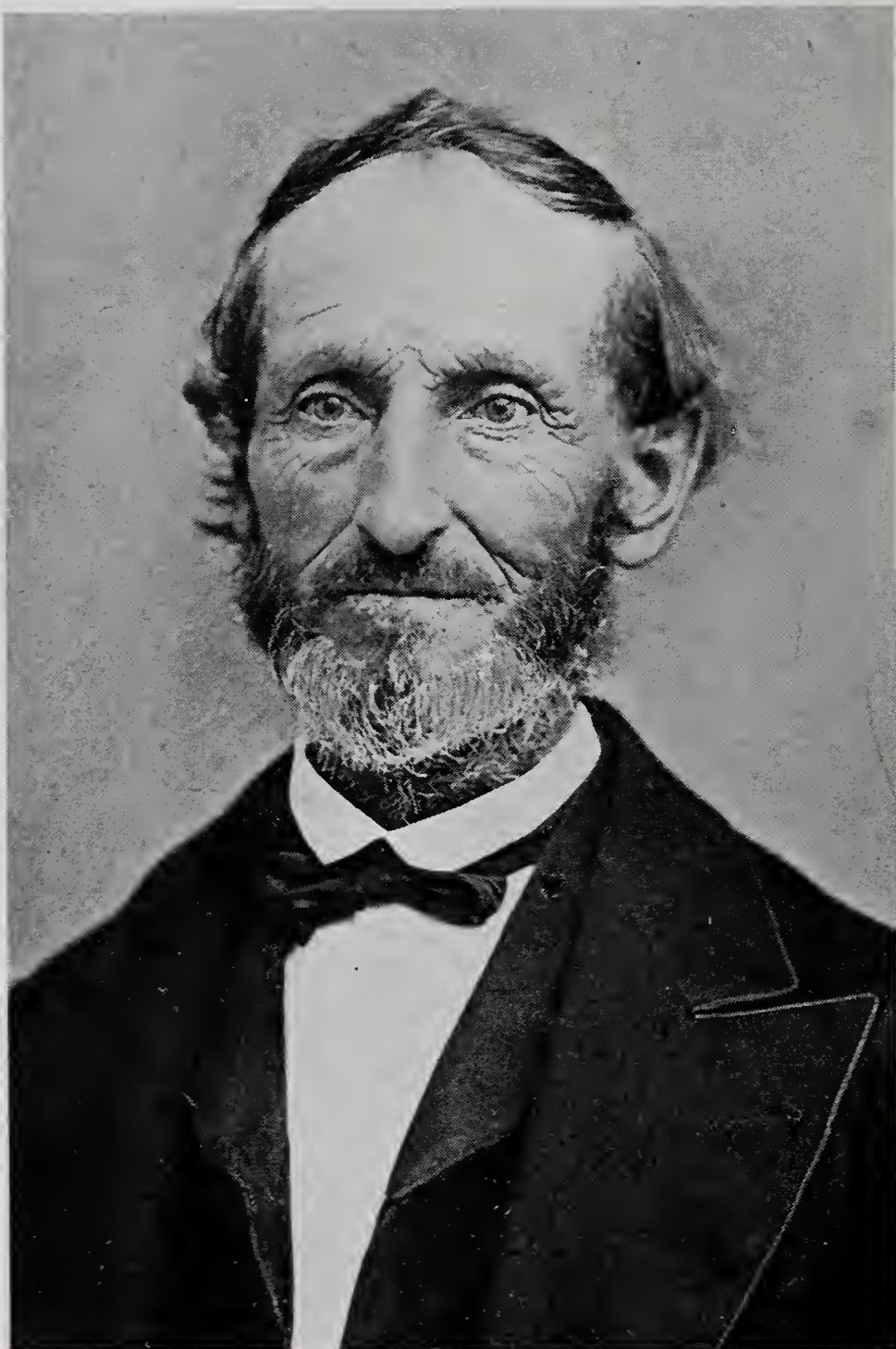
impressions; but the human spirit is elastic, and men and women, and even children, soon adapt themselves to their environment. Necessity and ambition spur them onwards in the healthful stimulus of work and the accomplishment of the daily task. So it was with the Schmidts. They had cut loose from all artificial support, had left their friends behind in a distant land, and were dependent solely upon their own resources. No stronger tonic was necessary. The children were as yet too young to be any aid, but their very helplessness furnished an additional stimulus to the parents. They had taken their resolution to wring a living from the soil on which they stood, and immediately they went at the task. Their most pressing needs were food and shelter, and Mr. Schmidt erected a shanty, in which task he was doubtless aided by such white neighbors as he may have had, for the pioneers were helpful to one another, and especially to newcomers. He then began the task of clearing and breaking his land, which was not so quickly done, being the labor of years; but as fast as it was broken crops were sown, and in time the harvest reaped. A hard worker, Mr. Schmidt made gradual progress, and was ably assisted by his wife, and later by his children as they grew to the age of usefulness. On their original claim they remained until 1868, in which year they sold out and bought 160 acres in section 34, Lake Township. This second farm was their home until 1876, in which year they rented it and moved to Lake City, where, having accumulated a competency, they built a comfortable residence. It is no small tribute to their industry that they had been able to accomplish so much in a new country, and in an era of low prices for farm products, within the space of 18 years, and shows them to have been possessed in a high degree of the qualities of courage, self-reliance, industry and frugality. Mrs. Julia Schmidt enjoyed their new life of ease in a settled community for eleven years, and then passed to the world beyond the grave. John C. Schmidt subsequently remarried, and survived his second wife, passing away in Lake City on October 19, 1907, at the age of 73 years. He had well done his part as a builder up of this county, and was a man widely known and respected, enjoying the confidence of his fellow citizens to the extent that he was elected a county commissioner, in which office he served for ten years. Politically he was aligned with the Democratic party. Of his children but three are now living: John E., born in West Albany Township, July 13, 1864; August G., born in West Albany Township, April 25, 1866; and Julia, born March 30, 1887, in Lake Township, who is the wife of George Mohr, a traveling salesman of Sibley, Ia. The two sons above mentioned are now engaged in the business in Lake City.

**John E. Schmidt**, who with his brother, August G., is conducting a prosperous business in Lake City, was born on a farm in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, July 13, 1864, son of John C. and Julia Schmidt. His parents were pioneers of that township, but when he was four years old, moved to Lake Township, and in 1876 retired and took up their residence in Lake City, where John E. attended the common school, and subsequently entered the ranks of industry. In 1884, at the age of twenty, he went to St. Paul, where he learned the plumber's trade, at which he worked there until 1896. In the latter year he returned to Lake City, and, forming a partnership with his father, John C., established the business here which they successfully conducted. On October 10, 1907, Mr. Schmidt became county commissioner to fill out the unexpired term of his father on the latter's death, and he has since continued to serve as a member of the board through election. In politics he is independent. As a business man he has been prosperous and owns a good home on the corner of Center and South Garden streets in Lake City. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, to which he still remains attached. Mr. Schmidt was married April 10, 1886, to Augusta B., daughter of Gustaf A. and Augusta Rieman of West Albany Township, she, herself, being born in Germany, February 4, 1863. Her father was an Evangelical Lutheran pastor in Germany, who, on account of his health, came with his family to Wabasha County, Minn., in the early seventies, and took









ABNER DWELLE



up farming here. After following that occupation for fifteen years he returned to the ministry. He died at Lake Elmo, Minn., in 1908, being survived by his wife, who passed away at St. Paul, Minn., in 1914. Mr. and Mrs. John E. Schmidt are the parents of two children: Franz W., born September 22, 1886, who is an employee in the U. S. customs office at Baudette, Minn.; and Lillian J., born March 31, 1888, who is the wife of George Eggert and lives in Chicago.

**Thomas L. Dwelle**, an early settler, was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., September 12, 1840, son of Abner and Electa C. (Lawrence) Dwelle, with whom he came to this county as a boy in 1854. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Co. I, 1st Minn. Vol. Inf., and served with the Army of the Potomac. At the Battle of Ball's Bluff he received a bullet wound in the shoulder, from which he was disabled, and as the result of which he was discharged in February 7, 1863. Then he returned and devoted his life to farming. He acquired a good farm, partly in the city limits, and carried on a profitable agricultural and dairy business. Mr. Dwelle was married in October, 1877, to Laura M. Sears, born in Racine Co., Wis., daughter of William Sears. This union has been blessed with two children: Addie Pearl, born April 28, 1880, and Arthur Sears, born August 13, 1885.

**Abner Dwelle**, one of the honored pioneers of Lake City, was born in Greenwich, New York, January 2, 1805, son of Abner Dwelle, born in Massachusetts, and Miriam (Martin) Dwelle, born in New York State, and grandson of Abner Dwelle, a sea captain, born in Scituate, Mass. The family comes of a long line of English and Colonial ancestry, the father and grandfather having both been soldiers in the Revolutionary war. The subject of this sketch was reared on his father's farm, and received such education as the schools of his neighborhood provided. As a youth he learned the wool carding and spinning trade. In 1837 he brought his family from Onondaga County, N. Y., to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where in Texas Township, he cleared a good farm. In 1854 he again set out with his family, this time bound for the newly developing upper Mississippi region. By the laying of half breed scrip, which he had purchased, he secured for himself and his family, three quarter sections on sections 4, 8 and 9, Lake Township, moving into a log cabin purchased from a mixed-blood on section 4. Two years later, in 1856, with Samuel Doughty and Abner Tibbetts, he platted the city. About the same time, a short distance from his log cabin, he erected a good frame house. This house, one of the pioneer structures of the county, is still standing, and still occupied by members of the family. Mr. Dwelle remained on his original claim the remainder of his life, devoting most of his attention to farming. He lived to a good age, and saw the village he platted grow into a thriving little city. During his residence in Michigan, he was an active worker and deacon in the Congregational church, and retained this title the remainder of his life. In his later years he was a Spiritualist. Before the war he was a Whig and an Abolitionist, but with the organization of the Republican party, gave that party his political allegiance. Mr. Dwelle was married in Onondaga County, January 8, 1829, to Electa C. Lawrence, born June 22, 1810, and by this union had nine children, of whom seven survived. Mrs. Electa Dwelle died in Michigan in 1847. February 17, 1849, Mr. Dwelle married Zilpha Knapp, a native of Chase, N. Y. The seven children were: M. Carrie, Elijah, G. Merrill, Henry, Thomas L., Albert and Helen J. M. Carrie was born March 11, 1831, and now lives in the old home at Lake City. Elijah was born April 30, 1833, and died at Lake City, October 8, 1917. G. Merrill was born March 13, 1835, was an officer in the Civil War, died at Melbourne Beach, Fla., April 9, 1915, and is buried at Lake City. Henry was born May 9, 1837, served in the Civil War, died at Chattanooga, Tenn., March 18, 1903, and is buried at Lake City. Thomas L. was born September 12, 1840, served in the Civil War, has devoted his life to farming, and lives in Lake City. Albert was born December 2, 1842, died at Chicago, February 29, 1912, and is buried at Lake City. Helen J. was born April 26, 1845, and still lives on the old homestead.



**Henning E. Utigard**, who is numbered among the prosperous farmers of Oakwood Township, was born in Romdalen, Norway, March 15, 1860, son of Eric and Marit Utigard. The parents, also natives of Norway, both died in their native land, the father in 1887, and the mother in 1911 at the age of 91 years. Their son Henning attended school in Norway and remained there until 1873, when at the age of 13 years he came to the United States with a party and relatives bound for the West. His first stopping-place was Omaha, thence he went to Wyoming, and after that to Utah, in which state he remained three years. Then returning east as far as Wabasha County, Minn., he went to work for his uncle, K. K. Utigard, of Oakwood, remaining in his employ for a year. After that he worked two years on the railroad. Being now a well grown and ambitious young man, he turned his attention to farming, and for several years operated a rented farm. On September 13, 1891, he bought his present farm of 76 acres, on which he has erected all the buildings. Here he continued actively engaged as a general farmer until 1910, when he retired from active work, renting the farm to William Blattner, though he still continues to reside on it. In his early agricultural experience prices for grain and farm products were low, and he remembers selling barley for twenty cents a bushel. He formerly rendered service as school director, and was road overseer for several years. When he first came to Omaha he was sixty dollars in debt, but from that inauspicious beginning he has risen through hard work to a position of ease and prosperity. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Knute E. Utigard**, engaged in agricultural pursuits in the townships of West Albany and Oakwood, was born in Trondhjem, Norway, September 24, 1858, son of Erie and Mary (Therstein) Utigard. The parents were farmers by occupation, and died in their native land, never having come to America. Their son, who is the subject of this sketch, remained with them until arriving at his majority. In 1880 he emigrated to the United States, coming directly to Wabasha County, Minn. Here he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul Railway, and remained with that company for fifteen years, being foreman of a section gang. In 1895 Mr. Utigard resolved to take up farming, and accordingly bought 80 acres of land in Oakwood Township, adjoining West Albany, and has since added 100 acres to his farm, which lies partly in section 35, West Albany Township, where he has his residence. The property was partly improved when he purchased it, having fair buildings. Mr. Utigard keeps grade Red Poll cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, having full-blooded sires for his herds. He also raises Shropshire sheep, keeping a herd of about 100. He has a good equipment, and 140 acres of his land is under cultivation, the rest being in timber and pasture. The soil is fertile and produces good crops, and Mr. Utigard through industry has brought his place into good condition and is doing a prosperous business as a general farmer. He is a Republican politically, though not a strong party man. On November 26, 1893, he was united in marriage with Minnie McCracken, who was born in Glasgow Township, May 27, 1862, daughter of William and Johanna McCracken. He and his wife are affiliated religiously with the German Lutheran church of Theilman.

**Otto L. Zillgitt**, who is operating a farm of 226 acres in West Albany Township, is a native of Wabasha County, having been born in Lake Township, April 27, 1888, son of Christ and Wilhelmina (Furst) Zillgitt. The parents were born and married in Germany, and there their two eldest children were born—Lena and Hannah—whom they brought to America with them. On arriving in Wabasha County, Minn., they settled in the close vicinity of Lake City, where the state camp is now located, and the remainder of their lives was spent there, both father and mother passing away about 1903. They had in all ten children, eight being born in this country. Of the two born in Germany, Lena married Clifford Long and lives in Saskatchewan, Canada; and Hannah married George Taylor and lives in California. Those born in this country are: August,



a farmer near Oak Center, Wabasha County; Edward, who operates a truck farm in Lake City; Clara, wife of Louis Rolland of Lake City; Albert, a truck farmer of Lake City; Otto L., of West Albany Township; John, a farmer of Lake Township; and George, residing in Lake City. Otto L. Zillgitt resided with his parents as long as they lived, then from 1903 to 1905 he worked as a farm hand, and subsequently rented and operated farms in Lake Township. In the fall of 1917 he came to his present farm—known as the Zwick farm—in section 17, West Albany Township, eight miles south of Lake City, where he is now operating 226 acres of land as a general farmer, and with good financial results. He keeps a good grade of stock, has a good operating equipment, is a hard worker, and is making farming pay. Politically he is independent. Mr. Zillgitt was united in marriage, June 14, 1912, with Rosina Henn, daughter of Henry and Mary Henn. She was born in Goodhue County, July 29, 1890. This union has been blessed by four children, born as follows: Allen Walter, August 2, 1913; Florence Clara, December 6, 1914; Frederick John, September 5, 1916; and Gladys Rosina, January 2, 1920. The family are members of St. John's Lutheran Congregation at Lake City.

**Charles J. Nygren**, an extensive landowner, now deceased, was known for many years throughout southeastern Minnesota and southwestern Wisconsin as a large dealer in horses and mules. He was one of those men who came to this county with absolutely nothing, and by hard work, native shrewdness and sterling integrity achieved a respected place among the most prosperous men of the country, and left to his large family the memories of a worthy life, and the heritage of a respected name. He was born in Orobo, Sweden, March 5, 1846, the son of Erick Nygren. Left motherless at an early age, he was reared in his native land, and was thrown on his own resources when but eleven years old. As a young man he married Maria Johanson. In 1869 they came to America, reached the Mississippi by railroad, came up that stream on a boat, and disembarked at Hastings with practically no worldly possessions. Securing such work as he could, Mr. Nygren made his way through Goodhue County into this county, where he was variously employed, in general labor, as a teamster, and as a farm renter. After awhile he bought a place of his own. Gradually he added to his possessions until he owned a large tract of good farm land lying in Mt. Pleasant and Gilford Townships. Of this tract, two of the sons, Oscar M. and Charles Elmer now each own a farm of 240 acres in Mt. Pleasant Township, on each of which Mr. Nygren put up a dwelling and a good set of buildings. In addition to the busy cares of operating his broad acres, Mr. Nygren dealt in horses and mules, buying, feeding, breeding and shipping. His principal shipping point was Lake City, and his principal market at St. Louis. It was through this trading, that Mr. Nygren became so widely and favorably known throughout this entire region. In 1903 he moved to Lake City and purchased a home at the corner of Prairie avenue and Dwelle street. He continued from this point in horse dealing and shipping. After a long and useful life filled with worthy accomplishment, he died June 21, 1912, and his death was sincerely mourned. His wife still makes her home in Lake City. Mr. and Mrs. Nygren were the parents of ten children: Carl Herman, Ida M., Carl Sigfred, Huldah, Oscar William, Edla M., John Herman, Charles Elmer, Anna Louisa and Selma Eugenia. Carl Herman was left with relatives in Sweden, and died at the age of four years. Ida M. was born August 17, 1870, and lives at home. Carl Sigfred was born April 3, 1873, and is in the real estate business at Lake City. Huldah Maria was born April 14, 1874, and is now dead. Oscar William was born April 7, 1876, and is a farmer in Mount Pleasant Township. Edla M. was born April 12, 1878, who is now Mrs. Louis Walther, of Waseca, Minn. John Herman was born April 27, 1880, and is a veterinary surgeon at Waverly, Ia. Charles Elmer was born January 8, 1883, and is now a farmer in Mount Pleasant Township. Anna Louisa was born May 1, 1885, married Oscar Olson, and resides at Brooten, Minn. Selma Eugenia



was born October 1, 1887, and is a teacher in the Lake City high school. She lives with her mother.

**James W. Nolan**, a prominent member of the agricultural community of Oakwood Township, owning and residing on a farm of 280 acres, was born on this farm, August 18, 1867, son of Patrick and Ellen (O'Neil) Nolan. The father was a native of Ireland, and the mother of Pennsylvania, in which state they were married. Immediately, or soon after that event, they came to Wabasha County, Minn., to found a home. It was the year 1857, when Read's Landing was the only village in the county. By an almost undiscernable foot-path they found their way to their claim of 160 acres in section 9, Oakwood Township, finding the land all wild, a part being covered with timber and the rest prairie. All the elements of a good farm were present, but the farm had to be carved out and developed from the primitive conditions which confronted the pioneers. To this labor Mr. Nolan immediately addressed himself, assisted by his wife. A log house was first erected, and soon after a few rude outbuildings, while he also commenced the arduous task of clearing and breaking the land, giving his first attention to the prairie land as the easier task. After making some progress, he built a better log house in another location on his property, and kept on making improvements. By 1881 his farm presented a good appearance, and in that year he built a solid stone house, for which he, himself, quarried the stone. From time to time, also, he purchased more land, so that at the time of his death, which occurred in 1883, he owned 280 acres. His work as a pioneer developer of this county had been well done and has had permanent results. His wife Ellen survived him many years, dying at an advanced age in December, 1917. Their family numbered seven children: Frances, now Mrs. Edward Hyde, of Dubuque, Ia.; Joseph, of South St. Paul; Ellen, wife of John McClernan of Todd County, Minn.; James W., now owner of the old homestead; Patrick F., of South St. Paul; Thomas, residing in St. Louis County, Minn.; and Josephine, now Mrs. D. L. Cavanaugh of South St. Paul. James W. Nolan made his appearance in the household about ten years after his parents had settled on their claim in this township, and pioneer scenes and events are indelibly impressed on his mind as his childhood recollections. When old enough he was sent to the district school, where he made his first acquaintance with the "three R's," and afterwards to the Zumbro Falls public school. At an early age he began making himself useful on the farm, and within a few years had acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture. He assisted his father until the latter's death, and after that event operated the farm for his mother until 1901, in which year he bought it, and it has since remained his property. Every foot of its area of 280 acres is familiar to him, and most of the important improvements now standing have been his own work, as he has rebuilt practically all the buildings, and in 1917 erected a new modern house of nine rooms. The barn is 40 by 64 feet, with a full basement. He also installed an individual electric lighting system, furnishing light for all the buildings. Up to 1917 Mr. Nolan carried on diversified farming, and for many years was a successful breeder of Herford cattle, having one of the best herds in the county. Though he then retired from active work, renting the farm to a tenant, he still lives on it, and is, as he has been for many years, closely identified with the agricultural and other business interests of this section. He was one of the organizers and is president of the Millville Farmers' Co-operative Co., buyers and shippers of grain and all farm products. He was also one of the organizers and charter members of the Millville State Bank, which he is now serving as president; and is financially interested in the Rest Island Silver Fox Company, at Lake City, of which he was vice president in 1919. Religiously he is a Catholic, and fraternally a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America. On May 10, 1906, James W. Nolan was united in marriage with Catherine Rothgarn, who was born in Hyde Park Township, Wabasha County, Minn., March 2, 1885.









ARTHUR SCHLEICHER AND FOXES



Their union has been blessed with six children, one of whom, Milton Francis, died in infancy. The survivors are: Helen C., born March 16, 1907; Francis L., March 25, 1911; Alice M., December 29, 1914; Harriett L., May 12, 1918; and James W., Jr., February 25, 1920.

**John August Danckwart**, a prominent and well-to-do farmer of West Albany Township, residing in section 4, was born in this township, just across the road from his present residence, on August 14, 1891, son of John and Sophia (Herning) Danckwart. The father, a native of Germany, came to the United States about 1859, and was an early settler in this locality, subsequently developing a farm in section 9, West Albany Township, and also the farm on which his son, John A., now lives. This latter, in 1914, he sold to his sons Frank and John August, and moved to Lake City, where he is now living retired. He owned altogether 480 acres of land, 320 being in one farm. His wife Sophia was born in Wabasha County. They are esteemed residents of Lake City and members of St. John's German Lutheran congregation. Their children were Fred, Edward, Ida, Martha, Clara, Frank, William, Louis, John August, Agnes and Harry. All are living except Edward, Ida and Agnes. William and Louis are twins. John August Danckwart in his boyhood attended the district school and was brought up to farm life and labor on his parents' farm, remaining at home until 1914. Since then he has made independent progress in agricultural pursuits, and in time came into possession of his present farm of 280 acres, of which he now has 240 under the plow. He has built a comfortable, 8-room frame house, and also a fine set of buildings, all of modern construction, including a horse barn, 32 by 52 by 16 feet; machine shed, 18 by 50 by 8; stock barn, 34 by 60 by 14, with a 9-foot basement, steel stanchions and stalls, cement floors and running water; besides a granary and cribs. His cattle are of the Shorthorn variety, which he is breeding to a higher grade, using full-blood sires for cattle and hogs, which latter stock are of the Duroc-Jersey breed. Mr. Danckwart's equipment included a five-passenger Chevrolet car, and aside from his direct farming interests he is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association, and a stockholder in the Farmers elevator at Lake City; and is interested in the new Farmers Milling Co., of Lake City, and operates a threshing rig for himself and neighbors. He is serving as clerk of the school board and is an active and enterprising citizen, interested in everything that pertains to the good of the community in which he resides. Mr. Danckwart was married, June 24, 1918, to Mabel, daughter of William and Lena McCracken, of Glasgow Township, this county, and who was born October 24, 1895.

**Arthur Schleicher**, secretary and manager of the Rest Island Fox farm, and a resident of Lake City, was born in Millville, Wabasha County, Minn., August 31, 1891, son of Charles R. and Augusta (Springer) Schleicher. His elementary education was acquired in the common schools of Millville, and in 1910, after two years' study, he was graduated in the business course from St. Paul's College, at St. Paul, Minn. On his return to Millville he became his father's partner in the lumber and agricultural implement business, the style of the firm being C. Schleicher & Son. He was thus engaged when, one day in June, 1911, a farmer's boy brought to town some red foxes he had captured. Young Schleicher bought three of them, for which he paid \$2.50. To most young men of his age this would have been merely an incident devoid of any noteworthy result, but Mr. Schleicher was thoughtful and ambitious, and into his mind came the idea of possible profit. At that time fox breeding was carried on to some extent in Canada, chiefly on Prince Edward's Island. Young Schleicher read all the books and pamphlets he could get hold of on the subject, but as the breeders' methods were kept as secret as possible, he had to find out many things for himself by experiment. He ascertained that the fur of the silver fox was by far the most valuable, a pair of these animals, owing to their rarity, having sold for as high as \$30,000. After absorbing all the information he could obtain, he sold his red foxes at from \$12 to \$40 each, and bought a few



silver foxes, for which he paid from \$500 to \$1,200, and began scientific experiments in breeding. By 1915 he was ready to go deeply into the game, and accordingly bought six pairs of registered, standard-bred silver foxes on Prince Edward Island. From that beginning has been developed the present large and growing industry, the site of which was transferred from Millville to Rest Island in 1919. The company now owns about 200 pairs of foxes, valued at more than \$150,000. Besides filling the positions of secretary and manager, Mr. Schleicher is a heavy stockholder in the concern. While a resident of Millville he served three or four years on the village board. He is a Scottish Rite Mason, and a noble of the Mystic Shrine, and also belongs to the Red Men, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Elks. Politically he is a Republican. On January 1, 1913, Mr. Schleicher was united in marriage with Evelyn Scriby, who was born at Zumbro Falls, Minn., September 4, 1893, daughter of Levy E. and Mary E. Scriby. He and his wife began housekeeping at Millville, but on September 1, 1919, moved to Lake City, where they own a nice, modern residence at No. 518 Lyon avenue. They are the parents of two children: Charlotte Evelyn, born November 8, 1913, and Lois Ellen, born December 28, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Schleicher are members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Lake City.

**Frank F. Danckwart**, proprietor of the old Danckwart farm in section 7, West Albany Township, was born here February 15, 1888, son of John and Sophia Herning Danckwart. He was educated in the district school, and under his father's direction became familiar with all the multifarious details of farm life and work. He came into possession of the farm in sec 4, by purchase in 1919, and has since been successfully engaged in its operation. It contains 320 acres, all under the plow, and is provided with a fair set of buildings, including a nine-room frame house, barn, granary, tool shed and steel windmill. Mr. Danckwart, who is a hard worker, and has a good equipment, has a productive place and is making good financial progress. He owns a five-passenger auto, and is a member of and stockholder in the Lake City Farmers Shipping Association, the Farmers Elevator Co. of Lake City, and the Terminal Packing Co. of Newport. On November 6, 1913, Mr. Danckwart was united in marriage with Hilda, daughter of Bernt and Andrena Amundsrud Benson of Rushford, Minn., of which place she is a native, born December 12, 1892. Their marriage took place in Lake City. Mr. and Mrs. Danckwart have two children: Dorothy Lucille, born March 5, 1915, and Agnes Bernice, born August 29, 1917. The family are members of St. Johns congregation, German Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Danckwart is a Republican, and has been clerk of the school board 3 years. A practical agriculturist and a useful and progressive citizen, he is highly regarded in the community, and he and his wife have a large circle of friends.

**August Mischke**, a farmer in section 36, West Albany Township, who is making good business and financial progress, was born in Schlesien, Germany, April 29, 1861, son of Frank and Mary Mischke. He grew to manhood in his native land, where he was married, May 3, 1892, to Anna Seivert. In the same year he came to Minnesota, and settled at Theilman, Wabasha County, having friends here. For a year after his arrival Mr. Mischke worked out as a farm hand. At the end of that time he took up railroad work, and was for eight years in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway as section hand on the Zumbro branch. He had \$1,000 when he came to America, and being industrious and frugal, saved a large part of his earnings, steadily increasing his bank account. In 1901 he gave up railroad work for farming, buying 120 acres in section 36, West Albany Township. The tract was mostly bottom lands and was partly improved, having a fair house and other buildings. In 1906 he bought 80 acres of upland and has worked industriously in improving his place so that he is now well-to-do. He carries on general farming, keeping Red Poll cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, and improving his stock by the use of full-blooded sires. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery









MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MOECHNIG



at Theilman. In 1920 Mr. Mischke built a cement block garage at Theilman, 46 by 80 feet, which his sons Frank and Albert are now operating. Mr. Mischke became a fully naturalized American citizen in 1906 and is a Republican in politics, though with independent tendencies. He and his wife have eight children: August, Frank, Mary, Albert, Theresa, Julius, Lena and Paul, all living at home and doing their share in advancing the family fortunes.

**Alfred J. McDonough**, who is engaged in handling dairy products, and also in the general insurance business, at Theilman, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., October 8, 1891, son of Andrew and Mary (Bricher) McDonough. The parents were both born in Highland Township, and were there married. Andrew McDonough is of Irish descent, while his wife's parents came from Luxemburg. Mr. and Mrs. McDonough own a good farm of 120 acres in Highland Township, well improved and with good buildings. The father served the township many years as a member of the town board. In politics a Democrat. He and his wife have had six children, all now living, namely: Alfred J., of Theilman; Viola, residing at home; Eugene, who is assisting his father on the home farm; Myrtle, Marion and Lloyd, all living on the home farm. Alfred J. McDonough spent his early years on the farm, remaining there until 1909, when he went to Minneapolis, entering the employ of Lydon, Bricher & Co., manufacturers of table pads. For two years he worked for them as traveling salesman and for two years as superintendent of the shipping department. In 1913 he returned to Wabasha County, and locating in Theilman village, opened a station for buying dairy products, a business in which he has since continued. He also does a general insurance business, including fire, life, health, accident, hail and liability insurance, and as sole proprietor is conducting both branches of his business successfully and with profitable results. In addition to this he is also a notary public. Mr. McDonough was married September 24, 1915, to Louise Weigele, who was born at Wabasha, Minn., September 28, 1895, daughter of Charles and Madeline Weigele. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Victor, born April 16, 1917; and Earl, born April 14, 1919. The family are members of the Catholic church and of St. Joseph's parish at Theilman. Mr. McDonough is one of the stirring business men of the village, and a live factor in its prosperity. He has a wide acquaintance and enjoys a well deserved popularity.

**Charles Moechnig**, a prosperous farmer in section 35, Lake Township, was born in West Albany Township, this county, November 4, 1896, son of Gotleib and Mary (Fick) Moechnig. The parents were born in Germany, the father in 1849, and were married in this country, to which Gotleib Moechnig had come when ten years old. After their marriage they settled in West Albany Township on a tract of wild land, building a log shack for their first residence. Both parents are still living. They had eight children: Herman, now living in Oakwood Township, this county; Fred, of Lake Township; Lena, wife of Louis Sass, a farmer of West Albany Township; John, a farmer in West Albany Township; Emma and Elsie, living with their parents; Charles, the subject of this sketch; and Harry, residing at home. Charles Moechnig was educated in the district school and received a good agricultural training on his parents' farm. He began farming for himself on section 34, renting 160 acres of his father, and has since made good progress, being engaged in general farming, breeding Shorthorn cattle, Chester-White and Duroc Red swine, and keeping good horses. He has a good equipment, and is active and enterprising. In politics he is a Republican, while he and his family attend the M. E. church in West Albany. Mr. Moechnig was married, December 14, 1916, to Lillian Dahling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dahling of Lake Township. Their family circle has been enlarged and brightened by the birth of two children: Ethel and Orlin.

**Michael L. Klatt**, who for the last 19 years has carried on agricultural operations in Oakwood Township, of which he is a prominent citizen, was born in



Germany, September 22, 1852, son of Christ and Rosa Klatt. He was reared and educated in his native land, coming to the United States in 1875, when he located at Potsdam, Minn., and a short time afterwards in Plainview, Wabasha County. In 1901 he took his present farm of 160 acres in section 34, Oakwood Township, which at the time was provided with a small house and a straw barn. The house he has rebuilt and remodeled, transforming it into a more commodious and convenient structure, and he has also built a good barn, 36 by 60 feet, with full basement, besides making other improvements, so that his farm is now in excellent condition. He keeps grade cattle and other good stock, and as a general farmer is doing a prosperous business. Mr. Klatt was married in Germany, April 2, 1876, to Mary Ludwitzke, who was born in that country August 15, 1855, and came to America with her husband soon after her marriage. They have had nine children, namely: Gusta, deceased; John, born November, 1880; Edward, born January 3, 1883; Michael, deceased; William, born December 17, 1885; Mary, deceased; George, born February 23, 1891; Arthur, born February 22, 1894; and Ida, born September 21, 1896. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

**Henry W. Rheingans**, who owns and operates a farm of 160 acres in section 19, Oakwood Township, was born in this township, June 15, 1880, son of Jacob and Margaret (Helz) Rheingans. The parents, natives of Germany, came to America when young, the father at the age of twelve and the mother at that of four years, with their respective families. They were married in Wisconsin and came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, about 1877, locating in Oakwood Township, on 160 acres of land in section 1, where they began farming. Later they purchased additional land until they owned 560 acres. Jacob Rheingans continued actively engaged in agriculture until his death in March, 1901. His wife Margaret is now living in Zumbro Township with her son George. Henry W. Rheingans acquired his education in District No. 41, Oakwood. He worked for his father on the home farm until the latter's death, and after that conducted the farm for three years in association with his brother Rudolph. For two years subsequently he operated a rented farm, and at the end of that time, in 1907, bought his present farm in section 19. On this he has erected nearly all the good buildings now standing. In 1912 he built a good modern house of eight rooms, installed with a hot water heating system. He has also erected a barn 36 by 80 feet, with a full basement and modern equipment, a windmill and most of his outbuildings, and has put up new fencing on the entire farm wherever needed, thus bringing the place into excellent condition. The farm is well stocked with grade Durham cattle, Chester-White swine and Shropshire sheep, Mr. Rheingans keeping from 18 to 20 head of sheep. In addition to his home farming interests, which are prospering, Mr. Rheingans is a stockholder in the Millville Farmers' Co-operative Co. of Millville. As a good citizen he has devoted some time to public affairs. For several years he was treasurer of School District No. 44, and in 1920 he was elected clerk of Oakwood Township. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and in religion his family are Catholics. Mr. Rheingans was married September 20, 1904, to May Harlan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harlan. He and his wife are the parents of seven children, all residing at home, namely: Lester, Francis, Paul, Lois, Bernard, Glenn and Charles. Politically Mr. Rheingans is affiliated with the Republican party.

**Charles Rother**, a thrifty and prosperous farmer of West Albany Township, residing in section 35, was born in Schlesien, Germany, December 1, 1873, son of Karl and Caroline (Kuschman) Rother. The family came to the United States in the summer of 1882, proceeding directly west to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and settling in Highland Township, where the father worked as a farm hand until 1891. He then began farming on his own account on a small tract of 15 acres in section 35, West Albany, gradually adding to the area of his farm until he brought it up to 142 acres, its present size. When he bought









MR. AND MRS. FRED J. DANKWARDT



it, it was cut-over land, all grown to brush, which he cleared away, also having some grubbing to do. He built a comfortable house and other buildings and kept on working and improving his place until his death on December 6, 1916, at the age of 74 years, he having been born July 21, 1842. His wife, who was born March 11, 1849, is still living, and is keeping house for her son Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Karl Rother had eight children, one of whom died in infancy. The three youngest were born in Wabasha County, the others in Germany. The record in brief is as follows: Charles, operating the old home farm; Anna, born April 11, 1875, who died March 30, 1878; Ernest, born September 26, 1878, who died November 28, 1889; Ida, now Mrs. Henry Heil, her husband being a farmer in Oakwood Township; Emma, born October 23, 1883, wife of Charles Johnson, a farmer of Pepin Township; Louisa, born April 22, 1893, now deceased; and Helena, born September 25, 1894, now Mrs. Joseph Ramer of Theilman; and Henry, who is now deceased. Charles Rother attended school for three years in Germany and seven years after coming to this country. In early youth he became associated with his father in the work on the farm, and has since continued to reside on and operate it. He carries on general farming profitably, keeping a good grade of cattle and hogs, and getting good results from his land. He served as clerk of his school district for four years, and was elected town assessor to serve two years, but resigned at the end of a year, as his farm made full demands on his time. He is a stockholder in the Theilman Dairy Association, and as a citizen and neighbor has the respect and good will of his fellow townsmen. He and his mother are members of the Evangelical church at Theilman, he occupying the position of president of the church association.

**Joachim Dankwardt**, an early settler in Lake Township, where he farmed for a number of years, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, March 17, 1827. He learned and followed the weaver's trade, and also acquired a 10-acre farm, which he operated, working at his trade when he could spare time from the farm. In 1853 he married Annie Arnst, by whom he had seven children, five of whom were born in Germany. In 1869 he came with his family to America finding the means by selling his farm, the price added to what he had saved making a sum about \$1,600. This amount was nearly all swallowed up by the expenses of transportation, so he arrived here with but little capital. Locating in West Albany Township, this county, he worked one year as a farm hand. In 1870 he bought a partly improved tract of 80 acres in section 35, but there were no buildings, and he had to erect a small log house, with some straw sheds for his stock. On that farm he lived until 1876, in which year his wife died. He then bought a farm of 120 acres in sections 24 and 25, which he made his home until his death, September 16, 1918, at the venerable age of 91 years and six months. He was a strong and sturdy man until 1910, when he had a stroke of paralysis, and in 1914 he suffered from another. He had never mastered the English language, but was a hard-working man, respected by his neighbors. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City, and in politics a Republican. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Dankwardt were: Mary, now Mrs. John A. Klint of Minneapolis; Joseph, residing in Maumee, Fla.; Fred J., a prosperous farmer in Lake Township; Minnie, now Mrs. George Innis of Lake City; Henry L., of Lake City; Louisa, who married a Mr. Haldenmar of Chicago and is now deceased, and Anna, wife of Michael Pendergast of Sage, Mont.

**Fred Joseph Dankwardt**, a well-to-do farmer residing in section 25, Lake Township, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, May 19, 1862, son of Joachim and Annie Dankwardt. He was seven years old when he came to America with his parents, who settled in West Albany Township on a farm, where he was trained to agricultural pursuits, attending school at intervals up to the age of 18. After his mother's death in 1876 he remained on the farm with his father until he was 24, when he had accumulated \$75, a rifle and a watch, which were



his sole possessions besides his clothes. From that time until 1891 he worked out as a farm laborer. He then rented the G. W. Covey farm of 200 acres in section 25, Lake Township and started in for himself. In the fall of 1896 he and his brother Joseph bought this farm, of which 85 acres were then under cultivation, and there was a frame house on it, with some old sheds. To these slight improvements they added a frame barn, 34 by 64 by 16 feet, with a full stone basement of 8 feet; also a steel windmill, poultry house, stone cisterns and other necessary structures. As general farmers and stock raisers they keep grade Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs, and are well equipped with teams, tools and machinery, including a good touring car. Their operations have been profitable and they are numbered among the prosperous farmers of the township. A Republican politically, Fred J. Dankwardt has served two years as supervisor, and was an ardent and active supporter of the United States during the recent war. On October 29, 1907, he was married to Mary, daughter of Frank and Caroline Bush, of Lake Township. Since 1909 he and his wife have given a home to Frank, Anna and James Russell, the orphaned children of Mrs. Dankwardt's sister. Frank Russell served in the recent war with Germany. Mr. Dankwardt was reared a Lutheran and he and his wife are members of St. John's congregation at Lake City.

**Martin Erickson**, who is prosperously engaged in general farming, stock-raising and dairying in Oakwood Township, was born in this township, May 22, 1888, son of Eric and Emma (Carlson) Erickson. The parents were natives of Sweden who came to America in 1870, the father coming with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Erickson, who settled in Oakwood Township, this county, on a farm of 340 acres. On the death of Peter Erickson, his son Eric bought the farm, which he carried on until 1916, when he sold the property to his sons. He and his wife are now living retired on the old homestead with two of their sons. They had in all eight children, three of whom, Alfred, Ina and Freda, are now deceased. The survivors are Swan, Edward, Martin, William and Minnie. Martin Erickson was reared on his parents' farm and in boyhood attended the district school. He worked at home until 1916, in which year he bought 80 acres from his father. His purchase consisted merely of land, and in the way of improvements there was not even a fence-post. Now all is well fenced, and the farm has good buildings, Mr. Erickson, as soon as he came into possession, having erected a tile and stucco house of eight rooms and bath; also a barn, 26 by 32 feet, with a tile basement, for horses and cattle, and a good windmill. Industrious and enterprising, he is making steady progress and has taken rank among the reliable and useful citizens of his township. Not being married, his sister Minnie keeps house for him. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, as are all the other members of the Erickson family.

**Erick Erickson**, a representative citizen of Oakwood Township, who was for a number of years successfully engaged in farming, but is now practically retired, was born in Sweden, July 22, 1849. He was educated in his native land, where he remained until twenty years of age, at which time, in 1869, he emigrated to the United States, with his parents, who took a homestead of 106 acres of wild land in section 21, Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn. The earliest settlers had arrived here but 14 or 15 years before, and most of the farms were small and had but crude buildings, the almost universal residence being a log cabin. The elder Erickson broke and cultivated his land, built a house, barn, and other outbuildings, and farmed until 1881, when he sold the place to his son Erick, and moved to Big Stone County, where he died in 1890, having for some years been a widower. Before purchasing the old homestead, Erick Erickson had worked for his father for twelve years. After starting out for himself he from time to time bought more land until he finally became the owner of 466 acres. He followed diversified farming with satisfactory results, keeping mixed grade cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine. In 1915 he sold his property to his four sons—to Swen 160 acres, William 120, Edward









PETER ENGELHART.



106, and Martin 80 acres. Religiously he is affiliated with the Lutheran church. Mr. Erickson was married May 14, 1882, to Emma Carlson, who was born in Sweden, August 28, 1856. He and his wife had eight children, of whom five are now living, the record in brief being as follows: Swen, born May 1, 1883; Minnie, who is keeping house for her brother Martin; Edward C., born March 3, 1885, purchased the old homestead which he is now operating; Martin, farming 80 acres in Oakwood Township, and William, who is farming 120 acres.

**William Jacob**, an early settler in West Albany Township, where he now resides, in section 18, was born in Hanover, Germany, in July, 1847. In the early fifties his parents turned their thoughts toward emigration, wishing to live under a more liberal government, and with wider opportunities, than they had in their native land. The father resolved to come alone to this country and start a home before bringing the rest of the family, and accordingly did so, locating at Bloomington, Ill., where he found employment. In 1856 he returned to Germany for his family, which, in addition to his wife, then consisted of three sons and two daughters. Landing in New York after a voyage of 56 days on a sailing vessel, they proceeded west, but instead of settling in Bloomington, came on to Wabasha County, Minn., Mr. Jacob securing a land claim in West Albany Township. At that time there were no roads and they had to follow an Indian trail from their landing place to their claim, which contained 160 acres. After erecting the usual log house, they started in with oxen grubbing and clearing the land. Here William grew up, in his boyhood being deprived of educational opportunities, as there was then no school. He helped to develop the home farm, on which he remained until his marriage, January 20, 1873, to Anna McCracken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William McCracken, of Glasgow Township. She was born in Bowmanville, Canada. After or at the time of his marriage, Mr. Jacob settled on a farm of 160 acres in section 18, West Albany Township, where they still reside in the enjoyment of good health. They subsequently acquired 88 acres in Gillford Township. The farm is now operated by their sons William and Henry, who carry on general farming and stock raising, breeding grade Hereford cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Pure Bred Shropshire sheep. One child of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob died in infancy. Those now living are: William A., born October 22, 1873; Henry F., born April 7, 1875, and Emma, who is the wife of Herman Moechnig of Oakwood Township. The two sons are stockholders in the Co-operative Elevator Co. They have 120 acres of the farm under cultivation and are doing a successful business. William Jacob, the father, was one of the founders of the Jacksonville Lutheran Church, to which the family belong.

**Peter Engelhart**, now living retired in Mazeppa, where he has business interests, has had an active career as farmer, miller, and business man, and is now enjoying a period of prosperous leisure, the result of his former industry. He was born in Germany, June 20, 1852, son of Phillip and Elizabeth Engelhart, the mother's maiden name also being Engelhart. The father was a blacksmith by trade, and he and his wife spent their lives in their native land, where they both died within a week of each other, in 1888. They had four children, all sons, two of whom, Peter and George, came to the United States. George died at Keokuk, Ia., in 1893. Peter Engelhart came to this country in 1868, when 16 years of age, with friends of the Englehart family. From New York, where he landed, he proceeded to Keokuk, Ia., whither his brother George had preceded him a year before. An uncle, George Engelhart, who was a blacksmith, was also living there, and in his shop Peter found employment, remaining there for a year. The next five years of his life were spent on a farm in Iowa. In 1874 he came to Minnesota, settling in Wabasha County. Here he found work in the harvest fields, and buying a threshing-machine, also threshed grain. In the fall of 1874 he returned to Iowa, where he spent the winter, and the spring of 1875. Then he came back to Wabasha County with a carload of horses, which he sold in Lake City. After he had disposed of the last horse, he went



to Chester Township, where he broke 80 acres of land for a farmer, taking the first crop from the land as his pay. In the fall of 1874 he traded a team which he had used in threshing for 40 acres of land in Goodhue County, after which he returned to Iowa. The next year he resumed breaking land for the crops. In 1879 he bought 80 acres in Chester Township, and moved on to the land, which he cultivated until 1887. During subsequent years he bought more land—160 acres in 1882, 80 acres in 1887, and 80 acres in 1893, making in all 440 acres of which he was now the owner; and in the meanwhile he carried on agricultural operations, until March, 1887, when he moved to Mazeppa, and engaged in the machine business, being thus occupied for six years. In 1894 he bought an interest in the Maas elevator, and held it until 1917, when he sold out. He also acquired a one-third interest in the Forest Roller Mill, at Forest Mill, which was later moved to Mazeppa, but finally sold his interest to Theo. Maas. He has disposed of most of his land, but still owns 160 acres, which he rents out. He is a stockholder and director in the Bank of Mazeppa, but is no longer engaged in active business. In 1898 he erected a nice modern residence in Mazeppa. He has served as a member of the village council and on the school board, and is a man whose judgment in public affairs is held in respect by his fellow townsmen. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Engelhart was first married, at Zumbrota, Goodhue County, in 1880, to Alvina Dablow, daughter of John and Caroline Dablow, her parents being natives of Germany. Of this union four children were born, namely: Elizabeth, wife of Alfred J. Jondreau, of Cohasset, Minn.; Clara, wife of Ed. Freiheit, of Zumbro Falls; Christina, residing at home with her father, and Carl P., of Mazeppa, who is proprietor of the elevator here. Mr. Engelhart's second marriage was at Hager City, Wis., in 1896, to Anna Lemke, of Chester Township, daughter of John and Augusta Lemke. Her parents, natives of Germany, came to Minnesota at an early day, and were here engaged in farming. Both are now deceased, Mr. Lemke dying in 1916, and Mrs. Lemke in 1919. They had seven children. By his second wife, Anna, Mr. Englehart has a son, Peter, Jr., who is now studying medicine in the University of Minnesota, and will graduate in 1921. This son served three months in the S. A. T. C. during the world war. Mr. Englehart's son Carl P., married Palma Rohrer, daughter of Gottlieb M. and Helen (Auer) Rohrer, of Cochrane, Buffalo County, Wis., her father being one of the leading citizens of that town.

**Peter Peters**, who in his day was a hard-working and successful farmer in West Albany and Glasgow Townships, was born in Luxemburg, January 11, 1852. In 1853 he accompanied his parents, who were very poor, to Wabasha County, Minn., and they took a homestead of 160 acres in Glasgow Township. The land was wild and for the first few years the family lived in a sod house. Up to the age of 26 years Peter worked with his father. On January 14, 1878, he was united in marriage with Eliza Dora, daughter of Frederick and Mary (Anding) Stohmann. She was born in Glasgow Township, this county, December 5, 1865, her parents being among the earliest settlers there. At that time Wabash and Read's Landing were the nearest markets, to which the people walked carrying butter and eggs, the butter selling at ten cents a pound and the eggs at ten cents a dozen. About the time of his marriage Peter Peters bought 80 acres in Gillford Township and began farming with the aid of oxen, he and his wife living in a log shanty. Within two years they sold the place and bought the farm of Mrs. Peters' father in Glasgow Township. There they resided until 1890, when they again sold, and this time bought a farm of 240 acres in sections 11 and 12 in West Albany, which had, however, poor buildings. This defect he remedied, erecting a good set, including a frame barn, 36 by 72 by 14 feet, with basement; a second barn, 36 by 40 by 14; a machine-shed, 36 by 52 by 8; and a granary and hog-house. He also improved the house. There he was engaged in general farming, and also to a considerable extent in stock-raising, and was very successful. He had a fine operating equipment, and in-



creased the size of the farm to 256 acres, of which 200 are now under cultivation. This farm lies eight and one half miles southeast of Lake City and is a fine piece of agricultural property. Mr. Peters died suddenly of heart failure on April 17, 1907. He was a Catholic in religion, and a member of the United Workmen and of the Odd Fellows. After his death his widow, with the assistance of her son, Theodore, operated the farm till 1911, when she moved to Lake City, where she owns a comfortable home. Since Mr. Peters' death the family have joined the First Congregational Church of Lake City, though having previously worshipped with him. There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Peters: Frederick, October 16, 1889, who died in infancy; Theodore, born April 17, 1891, owns and operates a fine farm near the old home in West Albany Township; Alfred G. is the subject of a special sketch in this volume; Loretta E. and Clarabelle were twins, born June 8, 1901, of whom Clarabelle died November 7, 1918, and Loretta is now taking a teacher's course in the University of Minnesota.

**Alfred G. Peters**, now engaged in operating the old Peters farm of 256 acres in section 11, West Albany Township, was born in Glasgow Township, this county, April 16, 1885, son of Peter and Eliza (Stohmann) Peters. His elementary education was obtained in the common school, and he was subsequently graduated from the Lake City high school. In the fall of 1908 he went to the Minnesota Agricultural College, where he took a one-year course. For a number of years he was associated with his father in the cultivation and development of the home farm, which he carried on for his mother after the father's death in April, 1907, and of which he is now the owner. It is a fine property, with full equipment, and well stocked with high grade Aberdeen Angus cattle, Poland-China and Chester-White hogs, and merino sheep, each herd or flock having a full-blooded sire. Mr. Peters is successfully engaged in diversified farming and is enjoying a prosperous career, the result of industry and good management. He is also interested in the elevator and Shipping Association at Theillman, and owns a five-passenger automobile. He was married October 18, 1911, to Mae, daughter of John E., and Nancy (McFarland) Brown of Glasgow Township, and he and his wife are the parents of one child, Corinne Loretta, born April 25, 1918.

**Herman Passe**, a representative farmer of Wabasha Township, who, since he came to America fifty years ago, has through continued industry, built up a fine home and estate, was born in Hanover, Germany, July 9, 1845, son of Gerhard and Angela (Kosse) Passe. His parents being farmers, he was brought up to agricultural pursuits in his native land, being associated with his father until 1870, when, at the age of 25 years, he came to the United States. Two of his brothers had preceded him to Wabasha County, Minn., and were living in Wabasha Township, and there he first directed his steps, arriving at Read's Landing, July 4. Mr. Passe easily found work as a farm hand and was thus employed until 1877. By that time he had saved some money and was ready to start in on his own account. Accordingly he purchased 100 acres in Pepin Township, of which 40 acres were improved, but there were no buildings. For a residence he built a small frame house, adding other structures as they were needed, his stable being built of logs. He grubbed and cleared more of the land and resided on that farm for fifteen years, and, in fact, still owns it. In 1892 he bought 135 acres adjoining in Wabasha Township, and moved his frame house onto his new property. Since then he has bought 100 acres in Pepin Township adjoining, and now has 335 acres. Of this, 230 acres is improved land, the rest being in pasture and timber. His improvements include the erection of a good two-story eight-room frame house; a barn, 36 by 80 by 16 feet, with stone basement and cement floors; a tile silo 16 by 30 feet, and other buildings. The house and other buildings are electrically lighted. As a general farmer and stock raiser Mr. Passe has met with much success. His farm is well stocked with high grade Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs and Shrop-



shire sheep. In its operation he is ably assisted by his sons August and Christian. Politically he is a Republican and for some years served in school office, as clerk and treasurer of District No. 102. Mr. Passe was married, November 27, 1878, to Mary Anna Schuth, who was born in Hanover, Germany, November 1, 1859. She came to America alone at the age of 18 years after the death of her father, having already a sister here, and was followed by her mother a year later, in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Passe have had eleven children, who were born as follows: Caroline M., June 7, 1880; Mary C., April 30, 1882; August, April 22, 1884; George, February 26, 1886; William A., January 22, 1888; John Bernard, April 8, 1891; Theresa F., October 5, 1892; Christian B., December 24, 1895; Lucy C., March 5, 1898; Herman C. and Frank H. (twins), February 9, 1903. Caroline is now the wife of J. J. Angelbeck, a farmer of Highland Township. Mary C., who married Joseph Suilmann of Pepin Township, died January 3, 1913. August and Christian, both of whom are as yet unmarried, are helping to operate the home farm. George is on a farm at Merrifield, Minn. William A., a farmer, is also residing at Merrifield. John Bernard is residing on the home farm, but owns a farm in Pepin Township. Theresa F. is a trained nurse, being a graduate of St. Raphael's Training School for Nurses at St. Cloud, in 1918, and of the Chicago Lying-in Hospital in 1919. Lucy C., who graduated from St. Felix high school in 1915, and from the Wabasha high school training department in 1916, is now a public school teacher. The twins, Herman C. and Frank H., are living on the home farm. Mr. Passe and his family are Catholic in religion and members of St. Felix parish at Wabasha.

**Louis Sader**, now living retired in the Village of Minneiska, after a long and successful career in agriculture, was born in Harrisburg, Pa., January 1, 1843, son of Barney and Mary Sader, who were both natives of that state. The family name is of German derivation and was originally spelled Soeder, the simpler spelling having been adopted to prevent mispronunciation. In the family of Barney and Mary Sader there were six children: George, Lena and Phillipine, who are now living in Baltimore; Dora, who died in New York state; Lena, a resident of Baltimore, and Louis, of Minneiska, Minn. All the living are advanced in years, and the fact that only one has died out of six gives evidence of a sound stock and healthful living. The removal of the family to Baltimore, Md., occurred at an early date, as it was there that the subject of this sketch attended school. Soon after he had reached his eighteenth birthday, the Civil War, long threatening, broke out. Baltimore was one of the hotbeds of secession, but young Louis Sader had no intention of aiding the cause of the Southern slaveholders. Instead, he enlisted in the First Maryland regiment of the Federal army, as private, and soon he found himself amid flying shot and shell on the field of the first battle of Bull Run. From a private he became a teamster, and at Nashville, Tenn., to which place he went from Washington with his regiment, he was promoted to the position of wagon-master, and so continued until the end of his service. Then, having made up his mind to seek his fortune in the Northwest, he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and took a homestead of 160 acres in Watopa Township, which he started to improve. This work was performed under great difficulties, and at times amid privation, as he had little or no money, and it was several years before he could make a good living from his farm. Consequently he was often obliged to seek work from others to keep the wolf from the door, and on one occasion walked eight miles through snow three feet deep to get a job chopping wood at 25 cents a day. Money was so scarce that it drew 20 per cent interest, there was little credit to be obtained, and people worked for anything they could get. After awhile Mr. Sader sold his first farm and bought another in the same township. He also married, and his sons and daughters, as they grew up, helped their parents to develop the farm into a valuable piece of property. There Mr. Sader remained until twelve years ago, retiring in 1907 and buying his present comfortable home in the Village of Minneiska, separated by only a short dis-





MR. AND MRS. LOUIS SADER







tance from his former home. The year of Mr. Sader's marriage was 1867, and his bride was Angeline Cuvener, who was born in Prussia, Germany, January 1, 1842, or just one year to a day before her husband. She had come to America with her parents, Bernard and Elizabeth Cuvener, in May, 1864, the family settling in Wabasha County, this state. Here she met Mr. Sader, and they were made man and wife by Father Jacobus Trobec, in St. Felix Church, on December 14, in the year mentioned. Mrs. Sader was the eldest of her parents' family, the other children being: Maggie, now deceased; Annie, residing in Mankato, Minn.; and Katie, in Highland Township, Wabasha County. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sader were as follows: Barney, born March 25, 1870, married Eda Card, has five sons, and is now residing in Plainview, Minn.; John, born July 6, 1872, is married and living in Canada; Elizabeth, born in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, November 18, 1873, married John Doyle and died in Weaver, this county, leaving one child; Margaret, born in Watopa Township, July 18, 1875, became the wife of John Kramer, and lives in Alba Township, Winona County, she has two sons; Gerharth, born in Watopa Township, November 8, 1877, married Kate Doyle and resides in the township of his birth, he has one son and one daughter; Eva, the six and youngest child, was born in Watopa Township, November 8, 1882, she married R. G. Day and resides at Savannah, Ill., and has four daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Sader are spending the evening of life in comfortable ease, the result of their own industry, thrift and foresight, and are among the well known and respected people of the village in which for the last twelve years they have made their home. Both are well preserved and young looking for their years.

**Evan C. Fremo**, who for 46 years was a well known and respected citizen of Oakwood Township, where he was engaged in the farming industry, was born at Melhus, Thronjhem, Norway, March 20, 1841, and emigrated to this country in 1870, going first to Menomonie, Wis. After spending two years there he came to Minnesota, settling on the farm in Oakwood, which was his subsequent home until his death on April 6, 1918. Through industry and perseverance he built up a good farm of 218 acres located in sections 15 and 22, being assisted in its operation for a number of years by his nephew, Edwin S. Fremo, to whom he left the property. For several years he had been in poor health, and when the end came it was sudden, as he was found dead in bed on the morning of Saturday of April 6. Mr. Fremo was married in 1879 to Mrs. Sarah Olson, who died on February 28, 1900, and whom he had survived 18 years. Mr. Fremo left no children. His funeral services were held in the M. E. church in Oakwood, and he was laid to rest in the cemetery of that religious organization. He was a man highly esteemed and of large acquaintance throughout this part of the county. Besides his nephew above mentioned, he was survived by two brothers, Ole C. Fremo, of Hartland, Minn., and one who still resides in Norway; also two sisters, Miss Ellen Fremo, of Aberdeen, S. D., and Mrs. Christ Erickson, of Long Prairie, Minn.

**Edwin S. Fremo**, a representative farmer of Oakwood Township, operating 218 acres in sections 15 and 22, was born in Lake City, Wabasha County, Minn., and acquired his education in the district schools, and subsequently took up farming with his uncle, Evan C. Fremo, with whom he was associated until the latter's death on April 6, 1918, when he inherited his present farm, of which 160 acres lies in section 15 and 40 acres in section 22. He has made a number of improvements on the place, having erected barns and other buildings and built fences. He practices general farming but gives his chief attention to stock raising, breeding Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine. Progressive and enterprising, he is a member of the Millville Co-operative Shipping Association, and takes an active interest in all projects for the good of the general community. Mr. Fremo is as yet unmarried, his mother keeping house for him. Their religious affiliations are with the Swedish Lutheran church.

**Peter Schafer**, a well to do resident of Lake City, where he is living retired after a highly successful career as a farmer, was born in Coblenz, Germany,



November 1, 1864, son of John and Gertrude (Stromberg) Schafer. His parents were farmers, but seeking better opportunities for advancement than they had in their native land, they, in 1866, emigrated to Minnesota, settling in Goodhue County, where they took land, developed a farm and became in time very prosperous. John Schafer, the father, died on his farm there October 13, 1905. His widow is still residing there, and is now 87 years old, having been born May 1, 1833. They were the parents of six children: John, who resides in Goodhue County; Gertrude, who died in infancy; Peter, subject of this sketch; Anton, now living on the home farm in Goodhue County; Lena, the wife of A. A. Burkard, of Goodhue County; and Louis, who died in infancy. Peter Schafer acquired the elements of knowledge in the district school, and afterward for a short time attended the Winona Normal School. For eleven years subsequently he taught school in Goodhue and Wabasha counties, making his home with his parents until 28 years old. In 1893 he engaged in farming on his own account, buying 160 acres in section 10, Gillford Township. The place was improved and was known as the McCall farm. While residing there he improved it still further, erecting a good house, two barns, a granary, toolshed, hog-house, garage, tile silo and workshop, also installing modern appliances such as a milking machine, and putting in an acetylene lighting system. He also bought more land until he now owns 320 acres all in one body, and stocked his farm with high-grade cattle, grade Shropshire sheep, and Poland-China swine. Mr. Schafer personally operated his farm until the fall of 1917, when he leased it to his son-in-law, Henry J. Abraham, and retired, since which time he has lived in Lake City, having a fine home at No. 511 Center street. Aside from his direct farming interests, Mr. Schafer became identified with various enterprises in Wabasha County and elsewhere, and is still interested therein. He was one of the organizers of the Oak Center Creamery Company, in which he is a stockholder, and at the time of his removal to Lake City was a member of the board of directors. He was an organizer and director of the Zumbro Falls Shipping Association; is a stockholder and has been secretary of the Farmers' Elevator of Lake City since its organization; is a stockholder of the Citizens Bank of Lake City; also of the Frontenac State Bank of Frontenac, Goodhue County, being a member of the board of directors of the latter institution. He is also interested as a stockholder in the Rest Island Fox Farm, the Lake Pepin Co-operative Creamery of Lake City, and the Farmers Terminal Packing Co. of Newport. Another institution with which he was closely connected was the Gillford Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which he helped to organize, and of which he was secretary for 25 years. During his active career some part of his time was given to public affairs, as he served as town clerk for 21 years and was supervisor one term. In 1918 he was a candidate for the state senate, but was defeated by a small plurality. Mr. Schafer was married April 5, 1893, to Bertha M. Fitschen, who was born April 24, 1873, daughter of Claus and Marie Fitschen, of Goodhue County. Of this union four children were born: Gertrude M., December 23, 1893; Elmer L., April 2, 1895; Edna M., November 25, 1896; and Arleigh J., April 9, 1905. Gertrude M. is now Mrs. Orlin Rabe of Mt. Pleasant Township and has two sons, Merlin and Wilbert. Elmer L. met with an accidental death September 24, 1917. Edna M. married Henry J. Abraham of Gillford Township, and she and her husband are now living on Mr. Schafer's farm, which Mr. Abraham is operating. They have one child, Jean. Arleigh J. is a student in the Lake City high school. Mr. Schafer and his family are religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Robert Sutter**, a well known and respected citizen of Greenfield Township, who through enterprise and industry has made considerable progress on the road to prosperity, was born in the town of Alma, Buffalo County, Wis., February 8, 1879. His parents, Peter and Elizabeth (Joss) Sutter, were natives of Switzerland, who came to the United States in the early sixties, settling in









MR. AND MRS. JAMES BARNES



Wisconsin, where they were engaged in agricultural pursuits until their death, the mother passing away October 16, 1902, and the father January 12, 1904. They were members of the Reformed church. Of their seven children—Katherine, Margaret, Ursula, Mary, Andrew, Florian and Robert—one, Katherine, is now deceased. Robert Sutter was educated in the district school of the neighborhood in which he lived when a boy and in the Fountain City high school. When a young man he was engaged for several years in river work, and taught school in winter, until 1904. He then worked three years for the Minneapolis Brewing Co., and in 1907 began farming, buying 160 acres of land in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, Minn., the place on which he now resides. Here he has erected a modern house, a good barn and other buildings, the lumber for which he sawed himself. He carries on general farming, raising good stock, and has taken rank among the successful farmers of his township. In religion he is a German Lutheran. Mr. Sutter was married December 28, 1904, to Louisa Schurhammer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Schurhammer, of Sand Prairie, Greenfield Township, this county. He and his wife are the parents of a son, Robert V., who was born September 29, 1905.

**James Barnes**, now living retired in the village of Millville, has been a resident of Wabasha County for nearly 60 years. He was born in County Armagh, Ireland, February 5, 1839, son of Robert and Isabelle Barnes, who were natives of that country, where they died. There James attended the common school, and remained until he was 17 years old, when he came to the United States, being the only member of his family to do so. After arriving in this country he spent 18 months in New Jersey, and from that state went to Livingston County, N. Y., where, until 1861, he was engaged in farming. He was married there in 1861, to Catherine Shannon, daughter of Alexander and Mary Shannon, natives of Ireland, and in April, that year, he came with his wife to Wabasha County, Minn. From Reed's Landing they struck out for Hyde Park Township, where they bought a farm of 125 acres, or rather, a tract of land covered with timber, on which he began improvements by erecting a log house. The Indians were numerous but gave them no trouble, and Mr. Barnes worked early and late in clearing his land and developing a farm, gradually erecting all necessary buildings, and also in time buying an additional tract of 75 acres, so that he finally found himself in possession of a good 200-acre farm. There he carried on general farming and stockraising, with the assistance of his sons, and in particular, of his son, Francis, until 1917, when he retired and moved to Millville. During his active career he served in various town offices, being for some time chairman of the town board, assessor, and school director of his district. He and his family are members of the Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have had a family of nine children, eight sons and one daughter, namely: John, Francis, Alexander, James, Arthur, Robert, Henry, William and Isabelle. James, Arthur and John are now deceased. Two of the sons are in Canada, one in Bemidji, Minn., and one in Minneapolis. Isabelle married William McGuigan and resides in Butte, Mont. She has one child, a daughter. Francis Barnes, who was born on the home farm in Hyde Park Township in 1864, was associated in agricultural work with his father until 1917, when he, too, moved to Millville, where he is now living. He was educated in the district school, and like the other members of the family, belongs to the Catholic church. He lives with his father, the household being presided over by Grace Bush, a cousin, whose parents are both deceased.

**August John Wilde**, a well known farmer residing in section 20, West Albany Township, was born in Oben-Schleisswig, Germany, December 11, 1851, son of Johann and Bertha Wilde. The father was a carpenter and contractor, and neither he nor his wife ever came to America. August received his schooling in Germany. It was in the year 1880 that he came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating in West Albany Township. For four years he worked as a farm hand. Later he spent 13 years in railroad work, being nine years



on the Millville Division of the C. M. & St. P., as foreman of the steel gang, and four years on the Chippewa line as foreman of a section gang. In 1893 he bought 120 acres in section 20, West Albany Township, the property being little improved, but having a log house and some other buildings. It was not until 1893, however, that he took up his residence on this farm, on which he built a frame house. He has now 61 acres of the land under cultivation, the rest being in pasture. He is carrying on general farming, and making substantial progress. The farm is eleven miles from Lake City. Mr. Wilde was married December 28, 1884, to Rose Rother, of West Albany Township. He and his wife have been the parents of eleven children: Mary, now Mrs. John Prebe of West Albany Township; Clara, wife of Arthur Herbst of the same township; Elizabeth, wife of Otto Sander, of Glasgow Township; Carrie, residing at home; Bertha, now Mrs. Ed Schwartz of Highland Park Township; Frank, a worker, residing at home; Elsie, now Mrs. Fred Murray of Minneapolis; William, Margaret and Louisa, who are at home; and Ella, who is deceased. Politically Mr. Wilde is a Non-Partisan. He and his family are Catholics in religion, belonging to the West Albany congregation.

**Henry E. Wempner**, for a number of years a well known and successful farmer of Oakwood Township, but now deceased, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., December 6, 1866, son of Ernest and Catherine (Clemenhager) Wempner. He was educated in the rural schools and remained on his parents' farm until the age of 22 years, at which time he started out for himself, renting a farm in Plainview Township, which he operated until 1895. He then bought a farm of 120 acres in section 25, Oakwood Township, on which were few improvements, and which he supplied with a good set of buildings, including a house and barn, besides fencing the entire farm. In 1917 Mr. Wempner built a fine, modern house of tile and stucco, containing eight rooms and bath, and installed with a water system. He continued profitably engaged in general farming until his death on November 5, 1915. For some time previous to his demise he had served as school officer, and was a man with a good reputation as husband, father, neighbor and citizen. He was a member of the Lutheran church, to which his family belong. Mr. Wempner was married June 11, 1889, to Catherine Zell, who was born in Pepin Township, Pepin County, Wis., June 20, 1869. Of this union eleven children have been born, whose record in brief is as follows: Frank Frederick, born June 12, 1890, is farming in sections 19 and 30 on a farm of 160 acres, which his father bought in 1911, and which now belongs to his mother, Mrs. Catherine Wempner. Frank Frederick married Arna Carsten, and has had three children, one of whom died in infancy, the two survivors being Frank H. and Kenneth F. Arthur H., the second born child, who is a farmer in Olmsted County, married Sarah Kottchade, and has one child, Rosella T. Herman H., born February 8, 1893, is assisting his mother in conducting the home farm. He married Theresa Lyon, who died May 11, 1918, leaving one child, Mary Theresa. Albert F., born December 12, 1894, is working out near Kellogg. Bertha H., born April 28, 1897, married George Carpenter, and resides in Oakwood Township. She has had three children, one of whom died in infancy, the survivors being George M. and Harold F. Paul C., born August 6, 1899; Elsie C., born August 2, 1903; Elmer E., born January 7, 1906; Walter L., born June 23, 1908; and Hattie E., born May 29, 1912, are living at home with their mother. Another child, William, died in infancy.

**Charles G. Nordine**, one of the prominent officials of the Jewell Nursery Co., of Lake City, was born in Vermland, Sweden, February 27, 1877, son of John and Ida (Carlson) Nordine. He was five years old when he came to Lake City, Minn., with his parents. The father, John Nordine, entered the employ of the Jewell Nursery Co., and has ever since continued with them, today being manager and superintendent of the outside business. He has also become well known in horticultural circles throughout the state. Charles G. Nordine was reared to manhood here and educated in the common schools. Even as a boy









JAMES J. BUTTS



he worked during his vacations for the Jewell Nursery Co., and at the age of 17 was in charge of their hot houses. He has worked "under glass" ever since, and today has charge of their large greenhouses. He is widely known throughout the city and highly respected. For two terms he served as a member of the city school board. In politics he has always been a Republican, while he affiliates with and helps to support the Swedish Baptist church, though not a member. He belongs to the Masonic order, in which he has advanced as far as the Commandery, and was master in the Blue Lodge for two years, and high priest in the Chapter, also for two years. His other fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. Nordine was married October 7, 1903, to Marie Olson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Olson of Stockholm, Wis., where she was born July 22, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Nordine have reared seven children: Roy M., born September 30, 1905; Grace M., June 15, 1908; Carl F., October 30, 1910; Margaret R., June 27, 1909; Donald E., January 15, 1912; James, January 30, 1913; and Marion, June 17, 1914. The two eldest children, Roy and Grace, are pupils in the Lake City high school, and Carl in the grammar school. Mr. Nordine has two brothers and two sisters living: Louis, of Moline, Ill.; Martha (Mrs. P. Alfred Peterson), of Brainerd, Minn.; Edith and Paul, who are residing at home with their parents.

**Robert G. Smith**, formerly a prominent farmer and dairyman of Plainview, but now living retired in Rochester, Minn., is a native of this county, having been born in Plainview Village, August 23, 1884, son of Myron and Lucy B. (Butts) Smith. From the age of three years he lived with his grandparents, subsequently attended school in Plainview village, and was well trained in agriculture, finally becoming manager of his grandfather's farm of 400 acres in sections 18 and 19. He finally sold 320 acres, retaining the home place of 80 acres in the city limits. He also entered into the dairy business and established one of the first milk wagon routes in the Village of Plainview. On October 17, 1918, Mr. Smith retired and moved to Rochester, where he has a beautiful home at No. 1304 First Street, S. W. He was married January 22, 1903, to Iva M. Rittenhouse, and they have been the parents of two children: Yulee L., born May 9, 1904, who died November 11, 1917; and Howard H., born August 7, 1905, who is now attending school at Rochester, Minn. Mr. Smith is fraternally affiliated with the Masons and Modern Woodmen of America. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**James J. Butts**, one of the pioneers of Plainview Township, who left a fine record as a farmer and public spirited citizen, being, among other things a benefactor of the Village of Plainview, was born in Brookfield, Ohio, July 28, 1828, son of Jonathan and Eleanor (Brannon) Butts. He was educated in the district schools of his native town, and remained in that locality until the winter of 1856-57, when he came to Wabasha County, Minn., as a pioneer, taking a claim now known as the Feigert farm in section 6, Plainview Township. It contained 160 acres and he proved it up in 1860. On it he erected a house, barn and outbuildings and started to develop a farm, with the help of oxen. To obtain his first team of oxen he traded his gold watch, together with \$40 in cash, as he had not enough money to pay for them. Industrious and persevering, he made good progress and watched every opportunity to better his condition. After awhile he sold the 160 acres which he had proved up and bought the Hugh Wiley farm of the same area. Later he also purchased 320 acres in sections 18 and 19, Plainview Township, making a total of 480 acres of which he found himself the owner. A part of his property included the site of the present Plainview cemeteries, and this he finally sold. Later he sold the rest of his property except 52 acres in the village of Plainview, which he deeded to his grandson, Robert J. Smith. Mr. Butts was a highly enterprising and successful man, and his success was well merited, for he worked not alone for himself but for others. He was ever ready to take part in charitable work, to help his neighbors, and to



comfort and aid the sick. He planted the large tree that now stands in front of the parsonage of the Christian church in Plainview Village, and deeded to the village the land on which the high school stands, with the stipulation that it should be used only as the site for a school. In addition to the tree above mentioned, he also planted many others in and around the village, which have since grown to be fine large shade trees, useful and ornamental. He was physically strong and active, and on one January day, between sunrise and sunset he cut nine and a quarter cords of wood, a feat rarely, if ever, equalled. Universally respected and esteemed, he lived the life of an exemplary man and citizen, and his death on May 15, 1916, was an event deplored by the entire community. Mr. Butts was married in 1852 to Dorcas A. Aldeman, and they were the parents of two children: Lucy B., born March 28, 1853, who is the wife of Myron Smith, of Huron, S. D.; and Addie L., born March 24, 1863, who is the wife of John Doherty of the same place. Mr. Butts' religious affiliations were with the Christian church of Plainview. He belonged to the Odd Fellows' lodge in Plainview, of which he was a charter member. His wife Dorcas Butts was a woman of rare business ability and of many womanly virtues, a good wife and neighbor, and a great helpmeet to her husband and family. She died in 1910 and her death was mourned by her large circle of friends.

**Henry Wohlers**, a Minnesota pioneer, several of whose children are now residents in Wabasha County, well known and respected, was born in Hanover, Germany, January 7, 1835. He had a common school education and remained in his native land until 1854, when he joined the tide of emigration to the United States. At Castle Garden, N. Y., the landing-place of immigrants, he paid out the last dollar in his possession, but fortunately he had a ticket to Buffalo, N. Y., where he had a brother living, who was a wagonmaker, and who gave him employment. There he remained until the spring of 1860, when he came west to Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County, Minnesota, accompanied by his wife, for he had been married at Williamsville, Erie County, N. Y., to Dorothy Frederick. In the township above mentioned Mr. Wohlers bought 160 acres of land, of which but three acres had been broken, and set to work to develop a farm, building a log shack and starting work on the land with an ox team in the usual pioneer style. The country was very thinly settled and Red Wing was his nearest market. After making some improvements on that farm, Mr. Wohlers sold it for \$872, and bought 160 acres in section 7, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County. There were no buildings, but ten acres of the land had been broken. Here Mr. Wohlers made his permanent home, developed the land and erected a good set of buildings, and here he is still living, having now passed his eighty-fifth birthday. He long ago retired from active work, selling the farm to his son, William John. His wife died October 1, 1896, and his unmarried daughter, Christine, now keeps house for him. The children born to him were as follows: Mary, now Mrs. James Baker of Ellsworth, Wis.; John, of Mt. Pleasant Township; Louisa, wife of Harvey Roper of Frontenac, Goodhue County; Henry of Mt. Pleasant Township; William John, who now owns and operates the old home farm; Fred, of Goodhue County; Catherine, now Mrs. John Breuer, of Goodhue County; Christine, living on the old home farm; Charles, of Dumont, Minn.; Albert, of Mt. Pleasant Township; Recka, now Mrs. August Plote of the same township, and two other daughters now deceased. While the Civil War was in progress Mr. Wohlers was twice drafted, and on the first occasion paid for a substitute; on the second occasion he was excused on account of being one beyond the number called for, so he saw no military service. He has always been a Republican in politics, and during his active career served his township in various offices. He was for some years a member of the school board. He is a member of the Lutheran congregation at Belvidere, Goodhue County.

**Albert Richard R. Wohlers**, who is successfully engaged in general farming in section 8, Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in section 7, this township,



April 6, 1883, son of Henry and Dorothy Wohlers. His parents were pioneer farmers in this region, and there was plenty of work for all their children to do, so Albert attended school only until the age of twelve years. Then, as the money he could earn was more useful than the labor he could perform on the home farm, he began working out, his wages going to his father until he was 21. He earned his own living as a farm hand and in handling horses, both here and elsewhere, traveling about from place to place. In 1916 he began farming for himself buying 160 acres in section 8, Mt. Pleasant Township. The land was good and all broken, but there were very poor buildings. This defect he has since remedied, rebuilding the barn, and making other substantial improvements, including the erection, in 1919, of a modern, ten-room frame house, equipped with furnace, bath-room and electric lights. He has good herds of cattle and swine, breeding registered Hampshire hogs, and improving his stock with full-blooded sires, and is doing an excellent business as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is a Republican in politics and a Lutheran in religion. Mr. Wohlers was married, March 8, 1919, to Bertha G. Witterstetter, daughter of Adam and Janet (Hoffman) Witterstetter. She was born at Ackerville, Washington County, Wis., January 28, 1887, was educated in the public schools and at a Milwaukee business college, and for 15 years was clerk with the Eastman Kodak Company of Rochester, N. Y., serving in their Milwaukee office. Mr. and Mrs. Wohlers are well known and popular members of society in Mt. Pleasant Township and the vicinity.

**Henry Wehrs, Jr.**, an enterprising young farmer of Elgin Township, who has made a good start on the road to prosperity, was born in La Crosse County, Wis., February 4, 1897, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wehrs. As a young boy he accompanied his parents to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, and was here educated in the district school. Until the age of 22 years he worked on his parents' farm, and then in 1919 rented his present farm, near Elgin Village, of Charles Tradups. Here he is profitably engaged in general farming and stock raising, of which he has a competent knowledge, and through his industry is reaping good financial returns. His parents, who were born in Posen, Germany, came to this country in 1844, settling in Wisconsin, where they lived for a number of years, later removing to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where they still reside. Henry was the second born of their children, the list being: John, Henry, Clara, George, Fred, Bernard, Rose, Mary, Raymond and Wilbert. On February 12, 1920, Henry Wehrs was united in marriage with Nora Schacht, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Schacht. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

**Edgar R. Holzer**, who is obtaining good financial results from the energetic cultivation of a farm of 160 acres in section 2, Elgin Township, was born in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in December, 1884, son of Adolph and Chloe (Marshall) Holzer. He was educated in the school of his district in Oakwood Township, and subsequently until 1905 worked for his father. He then rented 280 acres of the home farm, which he operated as a general farmer for two years. After that he took a farm of 120 acres in Oakwood Township, which he operated under rental for a year, at the end of that time coming to his present place, which also he rented. In section 1 he intends to make his home for the future. He has begun a series of improvements, having erected a fine basement barn, 38 by 76 feet, the erection of a house being planned by him for next year. He was married November 20, 1907, to Catherine Harlan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harlan. The issue of this marriage is five children: Byrl A., born August 17, 1909; Eunice M., December 25, 1910; Ruth R., May 25, 1912; Harlan M., October 8, 1914; and Thomas E., January 20, 1919.

**William H. Kottschade**, who is operating a farm of 200 acres, 160 of which lies in Oakwood and the other 40 in Highland Township, was born in Oak Ridge, Winona County, May 5, 1881, son of Gottlieb and Theresa (Kressin)



Kottschade. The father was a native of Germany who came to this country when a year and a half old, while the mother was born in Cedarburg, Wis. After their marriage in Winona, Minn., they located on a farm of 80 acres on Oak Ridge, Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, on which they remained until 1889. They then sold it and bought 240 acres in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, where Gottlieb Kottschade is still engaged in farming. William Kottschade in his boyhood attended public school on Oak Ridge. Until reaching the age of 33 years he lived at home, working out and helping his father, and then moved on to his present farm, which he is operating successfully, keeping grade cattle and swine, and raising the usual crops to good advantage and with profitable results. In 1918 he erected a modern stucco house of eight rooms and bath, and he has remodeled and repainted his barn, and made other general improvements. Wideawake and enterprising, he has joined the Farmers' Shipping Association and the Equitable Fraternal Union at Thielman. On November 25, 1919, Mr. Kottschade was united in marriage with May Schones, who was born September 22, daughter of George Schones of Oakwood.

**Herman Brunkow**, whose untimely death at the age of 36 years deprived West Albany Township of one of its rising young farmers, was born in Gillford Township, Wabasha County, Minn., October 8, 1882, son of William and Frederica (Schuman) Brunkow. The parents were natives of Germany who settled in Gillford Township at an early day, and there the father died when the subject of this sketch was eleven years old, leaving his wife with nine children, all of whom grew up and married, and all of whom are now living but Herman. The survivors are: Matilda, now Mrs. Fred Pruder, residing on the old home farm in Gillford Township; Amelia, wife of Arthur French of Oak Center, this county; Ferdinand, of Hyde Park Township; Ida, now Mrs. Claus Heintz, living near Zumbro Falls; Elsie, wife of John Holst of Ryder, N. D.; Emma, now Mrs. Fred Holst, of Ryder, N. D.; and Henry, a resident of the same place. After her husband's death, Mrs. William Brunkow re-married and is now Mrs. Claus Holst of Lake City, Minn. Herman Brunkow was educated in the district school and remained on his parents' farm until his marriage on November 7, 1908, to Clara, daughter of John and Sophia (Horning) Danckwart, of West Albany Township. The young couple began housekeeping on a farm of 80 acres, near the old home on Oak Ridge, which Mr. Brunkow had previously purchased, and on which he erected a good set of buildings. He also worked 160 acres adjoining, and made good financial progress. In 1910 he sold the 80-acre farm and bought the John Burfeind farm of 160 acres in section 3, to which he and his family moved. It was provided with a comfortable house and other buildings, but he also erected others, including a frame barn, 32 by 60 by 16 feet in size, with full basement. He had a good operating equipment, and his stock was well kept, while his standing in the community was that of a prosperous and successful farmer, with bright future prospects. But man proposes and God disposes, and death called him from earth on January 15, 1919. He left his family in good circumstances, and his wife, who was born September 25, 1884, is now operating the farm. She has also succeeded her husband in the office of clerk of the school board, which he held at the time of his death. Three children were born to them: John William, November 21, 1913; William Frederick, January 20, 1916; and Edward James, January 14, 1918. The family are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City.

**Albert W. Ritzenthaler**, an active and respected citizen of Elgin Township, who has had an extended industrial experience in various localities, was born at North Freedom, Sauk County, Wis., March 1, 1880, son of Jacob and Salome (Steinger) Ritzenthaler. He was educated in the school of his native district and resided on his parents' farm at North Freedom until 1902. He then came to Olmsted County, Minn., and for eight months was employed on the farm of





HERMAN BRUNKOW













HENRY WESCOTT MORGAN



Bradley Sawyer, of Viola Township. Then returning to North Freedom, he worked at home until the fall of 1903. He now directed his steps southward as far as the Gulf of Mexico, and after visiting several southern states, returned home again. In 1906 he set off in a different direction, going to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, where he was employed for a time in brick yards. From there he went to Cass County, N. D., where he was engaged in farm labor until his return to North Freedom, where he remained until 1913. The summer of 1916, Mr. Ritzenthaler raised one acre of tobacco and twelve acres of grain and potatoes in Dane County, Wis. The next winter he worked in the pineries in Sawyer County, that state, and after that spent his time at North Freedom until 1919. Then coming to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, he took charge of a large maple sugar orchard on the Orchard Hill farm, now owned by E. W. Graves, in which occupation he is still engaged, being an expert sugar maker. Mr. Ritzenthaler's parents are both deceased, the father having died in North Freedom, Wis., when his son, Albert was two years old, so of him he has no memory. The mother resided at North Freedom until her death on January 4, 1915. Mr. Ritzenthaler has six brothers and three sisters, all in this country, the brothers being: Jacob, of Milwaukee, Wis.; George, of Baraboo, Wis.; Fred, of North Freedom, Wis.; Louis, a dentist in Milwaukee; Edward, of Reedsburg, Wis.; and Will, of Seattle, Wash. The sisters are: Sophia, now Mrs. E. W. Langdon, of Baraboo, Wis.; Carrie, wife of F. J. Ballone, of North Freedom, Wis.; and Emma, now Mrs. F. Templie of Baraboo, Wis.

**George Timm**, a well known and respected citizen of Elgin Township, who is proving a factor in its agricultural development, was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn., January 21, 1893, son of Adolph and Mary Timm. He was educated in the Plainview village school, and subsequently worked on farms near Plainview until 1916, in which year he rented a farm east of the village, which he operated for two years. In 1918 he rented his present farm of 160 acres in section 10, Elgin Township, where, in addition to raising crops and stock, he is doing some truck farming. On January 26, 1915, Mr. Timm was united in marriage with Charlotte Hilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Hilton, and of this union three children have been born: Madonna M., December 8, 1915; Dorothy E., August 18, 1917; and Franklin G., January 9, 1919. The religious affiliations of the Timm family are with the German Lutheran church.

**Edward Schad**, a well known citizen of Plainview Township, where he is engaged in farming and the raising of garden truck, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., July 1, 1888, son of Christian and Cecelia (Ruffs) Schad. He acquired his elementary education in the district schools of Highland and Plainview townships, and subsequently St. Johns University and the Mankato Business College, being graduated from the last mentioned institution in 1908. Afterwards, until 1914, he worked for his father on the home farm in sections 19 and 20, Plainview Township. He then started in for himself, buying his present farm of 60 acres in section 29, Plainview Township, which he has improved by the erection of a new residence, chicken house and out-buildings. Besides raising the usual farm crops, including garden produce, he breeds some hogs and cattle, and is making good progress financially. Mr. Schad was married in September, 1912, to Celeste Melvin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Melvin, and he and his wife have four children: Harold E., born September 25, 1914; Leona C., born July 4, 1916; Melvin J., born August 17, 1918; and Josephine Agnes, born August 2, 1920. Mr. Schad and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he also belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

**Henry Westcott Morgan**, who for over 32 years was one of the ablest members of the legal profession in Lake City, was born near Camden, N. J., May 1, 1850, son of Hiram and Sarah (Llewellyn) Morgan. Of his parents' five children the only one now living is Anna, who resides in New Jersey, the

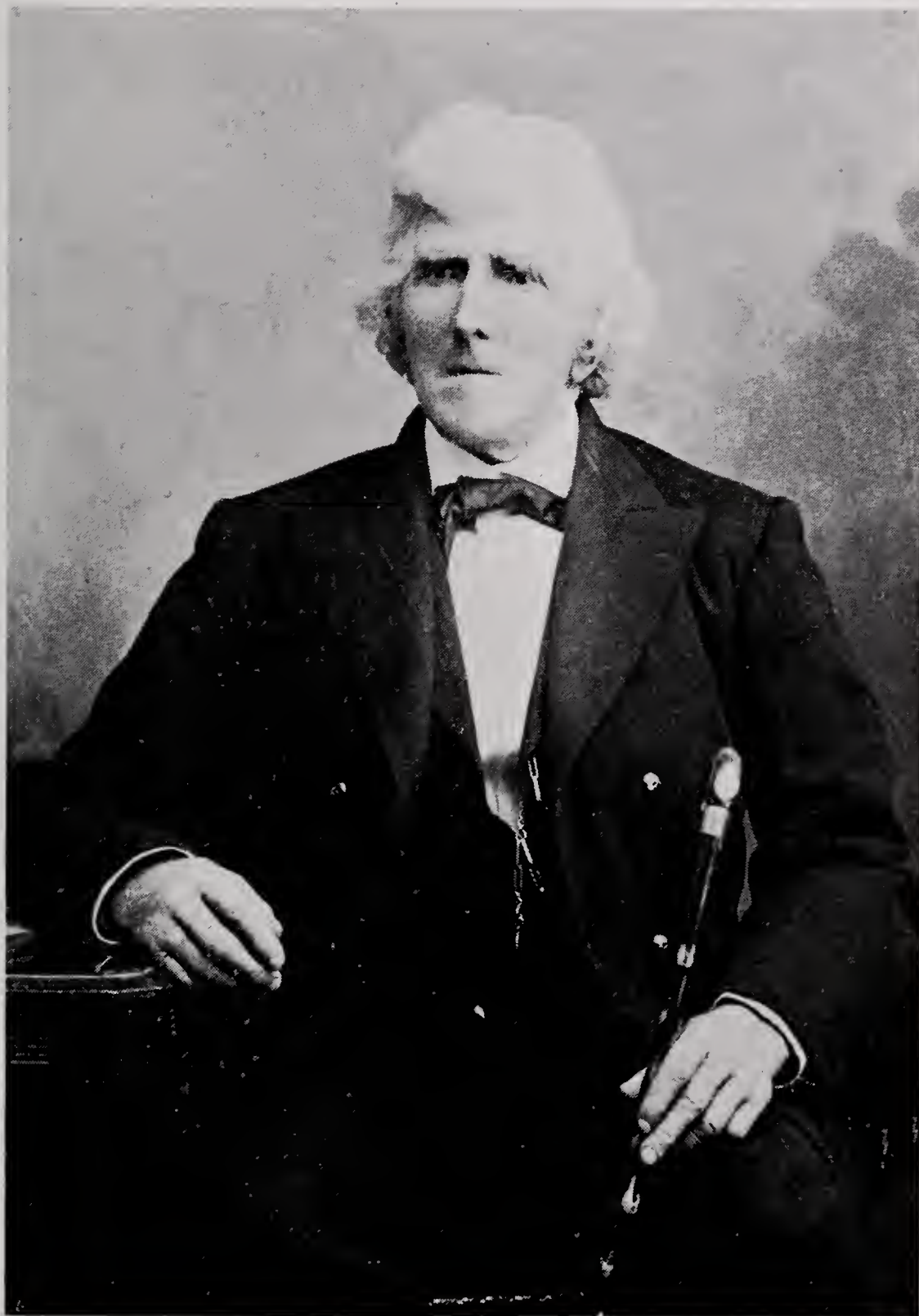


widow of Albert Sweaton. Henry W. Morgan was given good educational advantages, first attending school at Blackwood, then taking a preparatory course at Lewisburg, Pa., and further pursuing his studies at Bridgeton and Lawrenceville, N. J. Having decided to embrace the legal profession, he read law in the office of Furman Shepard of Philadelphia, and J. W. Morgan, a cousin, at Camden, N. J. After being admitted to the bar, he practiced several years in New Jersey, and was there married, April 1, 1884, to Mary Kelly, daughter of Patrick and Martha (Lawson) Kelly of Central Point. In the same year he came west and settled in Lake City, Minn., opening an office for the practice of law. Here he was highly successful and in time accumulated a competency. He was recognized as one of Lake City's leading citizens, and, as a Democrat, was active in politics, though holding no office, except that at one time he served as a member of the school board. He was a heavy holder of city and farm reality, and as a business man was noted for his honesty and candor. In early life he had been a member of an engineering corps and had helped to build a railroad from Amboy to Camden, N. J., besides two other lines. His death, which occurred June 13, 1918, as the result of paralysis, was an event which caused deep sorrow in the community. To his widow he left a comfortable home on North High street, where she is now residing. She also owns the old farm of her parents in Hyde Park Township. Mr. Morgan was reared a Baptist, but was not affiliated here with any church. To him and his wife were born three sons: Hiram, November 27, 1887; Matthew P. Kelly, March 11, 1894; and Alexander, September 4, 1897. Hiram, who is now living in Los Angeles, Calif., married Dorothy Maby of Lake City, in November, 1914, and they have one child, George Lawton. Matthew P. Kelly died unmarried March 27, 1920. He was drafted for the World War but was rejected on account of physical disability. Alexander is employed at the revenue office at St. Paul, but makes his home with his mother in Lake City.

**Patrick Kelly**, a noted pioneer of Wabasha County, for many years a resident of Hyde Park Township, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, about 1803. He came to the United States a single man about 1846, locating in Philadelphia. In 1855 he married Martha Lawson of New Jersey, who was born in County Donegal, Ireland, September 13, 1816. With her and their first born child, Mary L., he came in the early spring of 1857 to Wabasha County, Minn., traveling by rail to Dubuque, Iowa, and then up the river by boat to Read's Landing. Thence they journeyed to Hyde Park Township, which at that time was only a wilderness. The land which they took was almost entirely wild, only half an acre having been broken, and Mr. Kelly began improvements by building a small log house. From that time on, though suffering the usual hardships of pioneer life, he and his family made gradual progress, and in time he found himself the owner of one of the good farms in that section. He erected substantial buildings, the sills and timbers of his barn being of oak and walnut. To his original tract of 160 acres he added 40 more, and was engaged in farming there until 1876, when, having accumulated a competency, he retired at the age of 73 years to Central Point, a part of Lake City, where he built a fine brick residence. Politically Mr. Kelly was a Democrat, and for a number of years served as town clerk of Hyde Park, though in his youth he had received but little education. His wife, however, was an accomplished scholar. The latter was the first to pass away, her life coming to a close on August 1, 1898. Mr. Kelly survived her somewhat less than five years, dying May 12, 1903, at the remarkable age of 100 years. During his entire career he never suffered from sickness, but fell a victim at last to old age. He was noted as a man of integrity and was a staunch Catholic. Mrs. Kelly was reared a Presbyterian. They now rest side by side in the Lakewood cemetery at Lake City. They had but two children: Mary L., born December 9, 1856, who is the widow of Henry W. Morgan; and George M., born January 7, 1860, who died in childhood.

**James McGuigan**, formerly a farmer in Oakwood Township, and later a well known merchant in Millville, was born at Shullsburg, Wis., son of Patrick





PATRICK KELLY







and Sarah McGuigan, who were natives of Ireland, which country the mother left when nine years old. They were married at Galena, Ill., and came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1856, settling on 160 acres of land in Oakwood Township, which they later homesteaded, and where Patrick McGuigan died in 1886. James was reared on that farm, on which he worked until his marriage, when his father bought him an 80-acre farm. His wife, Julia Lynch McGuigan, was born near Milwaukee, Wis. They resided on the farm until 1882, but in 1880 he, with his brother, J. F. McGuigan, started a store in Millville, of which he was one of the proprietors until his death in 1893. His wife survived him until February, 1917. They had seven children, all of whom are now living: Mary, wife of William Kiley of Millville; Thomas W., a merchant of Millville; Clara, wife of Casper Verhalen of Milwaukee; Ellen, wife of P. J. Cosgrove, a banker of Millville; Sarah, wife of William Keough; Francis, manager of his brother Thomas' store in Millville; and Joseph, who was in the U. S. service during the recent war with Germany, having the rank of second lieutenant, and being stationed at Washington, D. C., and who is now in the employ of the United States shipping board.

**Thomas W. McGuigan**, a prosperous merchant and representative citizen of Millville, was born in Oakwood Township, April 12, 1872, son of James and Julia (Lynch) McGuigan. He acquired a good education, attending first the district school, then the Lake City high school, and subsequently the Winona normal school. He then became a teacher, which occupation he followed until the death of his father in 1893, when he took charge of the latter's store. One year later, on May 1, 1894, he sold a half interest to his uncle, and on May 1, 1895, he started a general store on his own account, which he still continues to operate. By close attention to business, honest dealing, and courteous attention to customers, he has built up an excellent trade. In 1894 he began to buy grain in Millville and for 25 years was proprietor of an elevator, which, however, he sold to the Co-operative Grain and Shipping Association in July, 1919. He has done his part in promoting the interests of the village and for four years served as village treasurer. He is a member of the Catholic church, the Knights of Columbus, Red Men and Woodmen, and is a man who has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

**Edgar W. Putnam**, who owns and operates a farm of 160 acres in section 21, Elgin Township, was born in Whitewater Township, Winona County, Minn., February 19, 1874, son of Charles and Hattie (Irwin) Putnam. He was educated in a district school in Glendale Valley, and his early years were spent on his parents' farm. In 1894 he began to learn the trade of wagon-maker, at which he worked until 1898, when he went back to the home farm and remained there until 1907. In the latter year he bought his present farm of 160 acres in section 21, Elgin Township. He has improved this place by the erection of a new barn, a silo and out-buildings, and has also a very comfortable residence. His farm is one of the best of its size in the township, and Mr. Putnam is numbered among the township's enterprising and prosperous citizens. He is a member of the local Masonic Lodge and of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Putnam was united in marriage August 14, 1907, to Lelia Crawford, and he and his wife are the parents of four children: Arva M., born May 18, 1908; Ray E., December 24, 1909; Hawley R., December 9, 1912; and Leslie M., January 1, 1914.

**Hans Peters**, who is successfully operating a farm of 240 acres, two-thirds of which lies in Elgin Township, was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, April 7, 1872, son of John and Dorothy Peters. He was educated in his native land, where he remained until arriving at the age of 18 years. Then, in 1890, he came to the United States, locating first in Boone County, Iowa, where he worked on farms until 1897. In the latter year he rented a farm of 320 acres in Dickinson County, Iowa, and was engaged in general farming and stock raising there for three years. In 1903 he sold his place and going to Colorado,



bought 320 acres there, which he subsequently sold. His next venture was the purchase of a 160-acre farm in Iowa, on which he resided for a year. After that he lived in North Dakota until 1916, in which year he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and bought his present farm of 240 acres, 160 acres of which lie in Elgin Township, and 80 acres in section 31, Olmsted County. In 1918 he built a new barn, 32 by 72 feet, also a fine house and out-buildings. As a general farmer and stock raiser he is making good progress, and is one of the representative citizens of his township. He was married June 13, 1896, to Anna Ficken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerhardt Ficken. To him and his wife five children have been born: John H., October 27, 1897; Louise Isabel, August 24, 1899; Rudie and Prudie (twins), April 27, 1902; and Lily, July 7, 1912. Mr. Peters and his family are members of the German Lutheran church.

**Joseph A. Kennebeck**, who for 17 years held a recognized place among the industrious and successful farmers of Greenfield Township, was born in Wisconsin, March 19, 1868, son of Bernard and Mary (Ramer) Kennebeck. The parents were natives of Germany who came to America in the early fifties, settling in Wisconsin. Later they came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating in Wabasha Township. There Bernard Kennebeck died, being survived by his wife, who is now living in Wabasha City. They were members of the Catholic church. Their family numbered 13 children, namely, Herman, Anthony, Theodore, Bernard, Charles, John, George, Joseph, Katherine, Caroline, Mary, Elizabeth and Anna, of whom Joseph and Anna are now deceased. Joseph A. Kennebeck's educational opportunities were confined to the district school, which he attended for the usual period. After beginning industrial life he worked for his father a number of years and then for several years did miscellaneous farm labor. In 1896 he began farming for himself, buying 200 acres in section 34, Greenfield Township, making improvements on the farm by the erection of a barn, and engaging in general farming and stock raising. In 1909 he sold that farm and bought one of 160 acres in section 28, Greenfield Township. This place also he improved, erecting a barn, garage and silo, building fences and doing repair work. He continued in agricultural work here until his death, April 2, 1913, when Greenfield Township lost one of its sterling and respected citizens. In religion Mr. Kennebeck was a Catholic. He was married April 14, 1896, to Margaret Pulles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pulles. Her parents came from Germany to America in the early sixties, and were engaged in farming in Glasgow Township, this county, until the death of Mr. Pulles on October 12, 1918. Mrs. Pulles is now residing in Wabasha. Their children were Frank, Martin, Andrew, John (first), John (second), Katherine, Margaret, Theresa and Helen. Of these the first named John died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Kennebeck became the parents of eight children: Louis M., born May 20, 1897; Lavina H., September 17, 1898; Cecelia K., June 4, 1899, (died July 31, 1900); Amelia M., born April 6, 1902; Martin J., October 8, 1903; Viola T., November 15, 1905; Marsella E., May 3, 1908; and Lucille M., December 2, 1910. Mrs. Kennebeck still operates the home farm, which is a nice agricultural property. She and her family are widely known, having many friends throughout this part of the county.

**John H. Dubbels**, who is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, was born in Viola Township, Olmsted County, April 13, 1884, son of John and Mary Dubbels. John Dubbels, the father, was born in Hanover, Germany, May 15, 1846. He was educated in his native land and came to the United States in 1864, settling in Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn., where in the following year he bought 80 acres of land. Later he bought another tract of 150 acres, fenced his land, erected buildings, and developed a good farm, on which he carried on agriculture and stock raising until 1919. He then sold the farm to his son Charles and moved to Elgin Village. On April 21, 1875, he was married to Mary E. Bierbaum, who was the first white child born in Viola Township, Olmsted





JOSEPH A. KENNEBECK AND FAMILY







County. They became the parents of eight children, Carl, Mary, Anna, Elizabeth, John H., Joe, Charles and Elsie. John H. Dubbels in his boyhood attended district school in Viola Township, Olmsted County. He worked for his father until 1909, then he and his brother Joe bought 820 acres of land in Morrison County, Minnesota, where he did general farming until 1917, when they sold the land. In 1917 John H. bought 200 acres in section 18, Elgin Township, which he sold after residing on it three years. In 1919 he bought his present farm of 280 acres in sections 30 and 31, Elgin Township, on which he is carrying on general farming and stock raising with profitable results. He keeps Holstein cattle, with full-blooded sires, and a high grade of hogs. Mr. Dubbels was married September 2, 1909, to Alma Tradup, and he and his wife have four children: John A., born September 6, 1910; Gerald M., September 16, 1911; Melvin C., May 20, 1915, and Genevieve E., March 18, 1918. The family are united in membership with the Lutheran church.

**Edward J. Deming**, one of the younger farmers of Oakwood Township who is making good progress, was born in this township, November 1, 1891, son of Frank and Margaret (Knoll) Deming. He was educated in the district school and in the public school at Plainview, which he attended for three years, and remained with his parents on the home farm until 1916, after which he rented the farm until the fall of 1919. He then bought his present farm of 120 acres in sections 25 and 26. At the same time he began improvements on it by erecting a new modern eight-room house, and sinking a well, and he now has under construction a new barn 34 by 60 feet, with a full basement and modern equipment, also a brick garage. He is carrying on diversified farming and stock raising very successfully, keeping Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, and is a member of the local Shipping Association and the Co-operative Creamery. In religion he is a Catholic and fraternally a member of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Deming was married November 8, 1917, to Florence Olson, who was born in Elgin Township, daughter of Swen and Carrie (Johnson) Olson.

**Frank Diming, Jr.**, who is engaged in mixed farming, including stock raising and truck farming, in Elgin Township, is a native of Wabasha County, having been born in the City of Wabasha, December 8, 1881, son of Frank and Margaret (Knoll) Diming. He acquired his education in a district school in Oakwood Township, this county, and was trained to agricultural pursuits on his parents' farm, working for his father until 1907. He then rented his present place, a farm of 120 acres in sections 11 and 12, Elgin Township, which he bought in 1911. He has improved the farm by repairing the house and buildings, and has also built a garage. His operations have been industriously pursued and have netted him good returns. Mr. Diming's marriage occurred September 22, 1908, his bride being Mary Angelbeck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Angelbeck of Conception. This union has been blessed by six children: Margaret, born August 19, 1909; Raymond, November 15, 1910; Dorothy, March 27, 1912 (died June 17); Leo, April 27, 1914; Eleanor, November 16, 1915, and Alvin, October 18, 1918. Mr. Diming and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus.

**William J. Diming**, who operates a farm of 160 acres in Oakwood Township, is well known in many parts of Wabasha County, where he has resided all his life. He was born in Highland Township, this county, January 18, 1883, son of Frank and Margaret (Knoll) Diming, and was educated in the rural school of his district and the public school in Plainview Village, after which he took up farming at home. In 1910 he rented a farm of 160 acres in section 36, Oakwood Township, which he operated until 1915. He then bought 80 acres of it, and in the fall of 1919 bought 80 acres adjoining, and is now remodeling and practically rebuilding a barn, 36 by 72 feet, to be furnished with modern appliances. His principal stock consists of grade Durham cattle and Chester-White hogs, and he is doing a good business, being a member of both the Creamery and Shipping associations. He is a director of school No. 42, and



in public matters is an alert and helpful citizen. Mr. Diming was united in marriage, November 16, 1910, with Cecelia Evers, who was born May 12, 1890, daughter of Joseph and Theresa Evers. The children born of this marriage are: Helen, December 8, 1911; Paul, March 23, 1913; Angeline, June 29, 1914; Alfred, September 17, 1915; Marcella, February 17, 1918, and Ralph, July 1, 1919. Mr. Diming and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs, in addition, to the Knights of Columbus.

**John Welti**, the enterprising proprietor of a good farm of 151 acres, lying partly in Oakwood and partly in Elgin Township, was born in Wabasha City, Minn., May 5, 1857, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Welti. He was educated in the Oakwood rural schools, and until 1898 worked with his father. He then moved onto that part of his present farm consisting of 80 acres in section 34, Oakwood Township, which he had purchased, and to which, in 1913, he added 71 acres that he bought in section 3, Elgin Township, thus acquiring a farm with an area of 151 acres. He has erected all the present buildings, including a good eight-room house, and a barn 30 by 42 feet in size, and in various ways has improved the property. Mr. Welti, besides raising the usual crops, is a successful breeder of grade cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a member of the Elgin Shipping Association and of the local creamery association, and is making rapid strides on the road to affluence. He has served as school treasurer of District 85, Elgin Township, for 18 or 20 years, and is a man who takes a lively interest in all matters connected with the good of the general community. For 22 years Mr. Welti has enjoyed the comforts and shouldered the responsibilities of domestic life, having been united in marriage, June 15, 1898, with Pauline E. Rother, who was born in Highland Township, this county, June 29, 1874, daughter of Gottlieb and Catherine (Saueressig) Rother. The children of this marriage are as follows: Philip A., born January 30, 1900, who is assisting his father on the farm; Lucy K., born March 7, 1902, now a student in the Elgin high school; Emma M. and Anna L (twins), born October 28, 1903, and Walter J., born January 30, 1910. Mr. Welti and his family are members of the Lutheran church

**James G. Lawrence**, a pioneer of Wabasha County, and one who has taken an active part in its development, was born in Syracuse, N. Y., May 1, 1836, the son of Gardner and Maria (Cossett) Lawrence, the father being an attorney by profession. Mr. Lawrence was educated in the public and private schools of Syracuse, and entered the book and stationery business at the age of twenty-one, being thus occupied until 1859, when, on account of failing health, he went to Texas. Here he was employed in the capacity of sheep herder, seven days a week at a salary of \$12.00 per month, and remained learning the business and regaining his health until the opening of the Civil War. Refusing to take the Oath of Allegiance to the Southern Confederacy, he immediately started North via Galveston. That port was blockaded the day after he arrived. Notwithstanding this and numerous other difficulties, he finally reached his home in Syracuse. Mr. Lawrence then secured employment as clerk in the Quartermaster's Department under Captain Nye, chief quartermaster of the Army of the Ohio on General Buell's staff, serving in such capacity until November, 1862. He then came to Minnesota. Wabasha county appealed to him, and he purchased a large tract of land in Greenfield Township and established a sheep and cattle ranch, where he remained for many years. In 1882 the narrow gauge railroad between Wabasha and Zumbrota was under process of construction, but owing to the failure of the original contractors the work was suspended. In this circumstance Mr. Lawrence saw an opportunity, and he associated himself with men of prominence and ability and took over the road, which they completed and afterwards sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & Saint Paul Railway. A Republican in politics, he has served the public in many capacities—as mayor of the City of Wabasha, as register of deeds of Wabasha County, also serving two terms in the Minnesota state senate and twenty-two years on the





J. W. G. Lawrence







State board of equalization. Also active in business, and watchful for an opportunity to advance himself, he became engaged in the grain business and with H. P. Krick and others organized the Wabasha Elevator Company, and was made its president. This new organization constructed a line of elevators along the Chippewa Valley division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. In 1888 Mr. Lawrence, associated with R. E. Jones, organized the R. E. Jones Company. They installed the electric light plant in Wabasha and engaged in the buying of grain and produce, incorporating in 1889, Mr. Lawrence being president up to 1896, at which time he sold his interests to H. J. O'Neill. In 1877 Mr. Lawrence acquired the Wabasha mill and incorporated it, and it is this organization that has received his greatest attention. Through his efforts he has brought this institution to the point where it stands second to none—not in size, but in the quality of its production. Mr. W. B. Webb, his son-in-law, is vice-president and manager. In recent years Mr. Lawrence has organized and has been made president of the Red Front Flour and Feed Co., Eau Claire, Wis., the Coppins and Lang Flour and Feed Co., Rockford, Ill., and the Eau Claire Baking Co., Eau Claire, Wis., and while he has in a sense retired from actual business, it is his influence that helps keep the machinery of all these organizations running smoothly and successfully. Prominent among the achievements of Mr. Lawrence is the Wabasha ferry across the Mississippi, the connecting link between the rich agricultural fields of Wisconsin and the markets of Wabasha. Handicapped since its establishment nearly fifty years ago because of wretched road conditions in the Wisconsin bottoms, the ferry had virtually been abandoned when, in 1918, Mr. Lawrence leased it from the city, rehabilitated it and with characteristic enterprise and success converted the entire stretch of three miles to Nelson, Wis., into one of the finest roads in that state. Permanent in foundation, surfaced with gravel and shale and with excellent bridges, the road has taken its place as a prominent factor in the progress of the section it serves. Through the initiative of Mr. Lawrence and under his guiding influence the beautification of the city was undertaken, beginning with the Mill River Gardens which stretch along the river bank for 650 feet with their beautiful wild and glorious cultivated flowers, redeeming what was once a mute picture of desolation wrought by mighty forces of wind, frost and water. Arbors, walks and flowers make it one of the most attractive river fronts in Minnesota. The spirit of the beauty of these river gardens reached out into the city, and as a result Wabasha is becoming more beautiful from year to year. Mr. Lawrence was married in 1872 to Alice G., daughter of Charles D. and Mary A. Wyman, of Wabasha. Seven children have been born to them: Eliza C., W. H., Fanny M., Charles W., Mary W., James G., Jr., and Henry O'Neill; Eliza C., Fanny M. and Henry O'Neill are now deceased. The two eldest sons, William H. and Charles W., served in the Thirteenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, during the Spanish-American War, seeing service in the Philippines. Charles W. also served in the capacity of chief of his section in the Norton-Harjes Ambulance Corps with the French army during the late World War, his services being voluntarily rendered. He was awarded the Croix de Guerre and made a lieutenant in the French army. James, Jr., is an attorney in Manila. Mary W. is the wife of W. B. Webb, vice-president and manager of the Wabasha Roller Mill Company. Mr. Lawrence is now 84 years of age, still active and in good health. He has been thoroughly identified with all the interests of Wabasha, its railroads, improvements, industries, etc., and is one of its foremost living citizens. His career has been a notable one, and his name is entwined so closely with the history of Wabasha County that it becomes almost a part of it.

**Gottlieb Rother**, one of the early settlers in Highland Township, was born in Germany, April 4, 1844. He acquired his education in his native land, where he remained until 1868, when he emigrated to Minnesota, settling in West Albany Township, Wabasha County. For several years he worked as a farm



hand, practicing economy and saving his money with a view to future independence. On April 14, 1874, he married Catherine Saueressig, who was born in Fredonia, Wis., February 17, 1852, and immediately or soon after their marriage he and his wife settled on a farm in Highland Township having an area of 160 acres, but ill provided with buildings, there being only a shanty for a residence, and a straw stable. There he made his home for 35 years, or until 1909, in which year he retired and took up his residence in Plainview, where he died March 26, 1916. A year after his death his widow returned to the home farm and resided there with her son, Edward, until October, 1919, when they moved to a farm in Oakwood Township, where they are still living, Mrs. Rother keeping house for her son. Mr. Rother was a steady and industrious citizen, respected in the community, and for two years served as school treasurer. He and his wife had thirteen children: Paulina, now Mrs. John Welti; Charles of Highland Township; Henry, living in Texas; John, deceased; Anna, deceased; George, a carpenter in Plainview; Mary, now Mrs. George Schultz, residing on the old Rother farm in Highland Township; Fred, deceased; Edward, of Oakwood Township; William of Highland; Albert, now at Hamline University; August, deceased; and Walter, of Plainview. Mr. Rother and his family were affiliated with the Lutheran church, of which the survivors are members.

**Edward V. Rother**, a general farmer residing in section 33, Oakwood Township, was born in Highland Township, December 30, 1886, son of Gottlieb and Catherine Rother. He received a district school education, and being brought up on the home farm early acquired a knowledge of agricultural methods. From 1907 to 1912 he and his brother, William, operated the farm together under rental, after which they bought it, and continued in partnership for three or four years. It contains 220 acres, which they farmed successfully. In 1912 Edward purchased his brother's interest in the property, and operated it alone until October, 1919. He then rented it out to a tenant and bought his present farm of 160 acres in section 33, Oakwood Township, on which he has erected a new, modern house of tile stucco construction. He follows diversified farming, keeping Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine, and is a member of the local shipping association. He is also engaged in breeding Rhode Island Red poultry, with good results, and is numbered among the progressive and well to do citizens of his township.

**Carl Fuhrman**, one of the early settlers in West Albany Township, long since deceased, was a native of Germany, and came to this country and to Minnesota at a very early day in the history of Wabasha County, accompanied by his widowed mother. On their arrival in West Albany Township, Mr. Fuhrman homesteaded 160 acres of rough land in section 15, and on the farm which he developed spent the rest of his life. The land was not only rough but wild and he had a pioneer's work to perform. Besides bringing his land to a high state of cultivation, he built a fine frame house, which was one of the best in the county when first erected, and also made other valuable improvements in the way of buildings. Though he began poor, he in time became the owner of 321 acres, 53 of which he sold to a neighbor, Carl Goihl, and at his death, which occurred in 1882, he owned 268 acres. Mr. Fuhrman was in his day a well known and popular citizen of West Albany, and was seldom called by his real name, Carl, but was familiarly known as "Charley." He was married in this country to Ida Neuman, who survived him 22 years, dying on the home farm in November, 1904. They were members of the West Albany Lutheran congregation. In early days when new immigrants were frequently arriving, Mr. and Mrs. Fuhrman were noted for their hospitality, and during their first winter here gave temporary shelter to no less than eight different families. They had six children: Minnie, who is now Mrs. Henry Pries of Maiden Rock, Wis.; Emma, wife of Fred Horning, of Stone, Canada; Frederick, who is deceased; William Charles, now on the old home farm in West Albany Town-



ship; Anna, wife of John Couter of Theilman, this county; and Alvina, who is the wife of Robert Halpans of Williams, Minn.

**William Charles Fuhrman**, the present proprietor of the old Carl Fuhrman farm in section 15, West Albany Township, established by his father in pioneer days, was born on this farm June 26, 1876, son of Carl and Ida (Neuman) Fuhrman. He was educated in the common school of this locality, which he attended up to the age of 13, afterwards attending school at Bremen, Minn., for two winters. In 1882, when he was six years old, his father died, and the farm was subsequently carried on by the mother and elder children. William C., when he grew old enough, was made of use on the home place and became a good practical farmer. After he had attained to manhood he cut loose from home and, going to North Dakota, homesteaded 160 acres of land in Bottineau County. This he subsequently sold, coming back to the home farm where he now lives, and which he purchased in 1902. He has improved the barns, built a new machine-shed, and made other valuable improvements. He has 180 acres under the plow, the rest of the farm being in timber and pasture. The operating equipment is good, and Mr. Fuhrman is doing a successful business as a general farmer. The son of pioneers, and himself a native of this locality, he is known by everybody and has a wide popularity. Politically he is independent, and was for nine years clerk of his school district. Mr. Fuhrman was married June 6, 1905, to Mary Rutz, daughter of Nicholas and Madeline Rutz of Highland Township, this county, but who was born in La Crosse, Wis., November 8, 1886. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Ambrose Nicholas William, born September 6, 1906; Leona Clara Henrietta, July 11, 1908, and Leslie Francis, October 16, 1915. Mr. Fuhrman was reared a Lutheran and confirmed in the Lutheran church, but his wife being a Catholic, their children have been christened in the Catholic church.

**Karl Moechnig**, a pioneer of Wabasha County who settled in West Albany Township among the early arrivals, was a native of Germany, where he grew to manhood and was married. With his wife Caroline and their family he left Germany, August 11, 1858, bound for Minnesota. The voyage was made in a sailing vessel to New Orleans, from which port they came up the Mississippi river to Read's Landing, where they arrived November 1. They took a claim in section 15, West Albany Township, but as it was late in the season they did not settle on the land until the following spring, stopping for the winter at the home of Charles Fuhrman. Mr. Moechnig had but \$80 when he arrived in this county, and by spring had but \$5 left. His land was wild and rough, but as soon as the weather permitted he began his improvements, building a log house with a slab roof and floors, the logs for which he bought of William Sturhman on Zumbro Bottoms for \$1. The slabs for roof and floor cost \$2, delivered at the farm, so his last dollar was soon gone, and the family started home making with little or no furniture. Mrs. Moechnig worked out to earn a little money or provisions, and also attended to the affairs of her own household, mixing her bread and carrying it to a neighbor's half a mile away to have it baked, as for awhile they had no stove. In the meanwhile Mr. Moechnig was clearing and grubbing land for others for a dollar per acre, but was able to grub but one acre a week. As they had neither oxen nor horses, the stone for the foundation of the log house was carried and hauled by ropes by the father and mother from the coolie half a mile away. A neighbor who owned oxen broke for them two acres of their land, on which they raised their first crop of 60 bushels of wheat. The parents were so much discouraged by the hardships they had to endure and the difficulty of making progress, that they were ashamed to let their friends in Germany know of their experiences, and so refrained from writing home until after they had harvested their first crop. Then they wrote a joyous letter. They were both at this time nearly fifty years old, and Mr. Moechnig was not strong, though he worked hard. His wife was a willing worker and faithful helpmate, and used to carry butter and eggs to



Read's Landing, 14 miles distant, sometimes bringing home 50 pounds of flour on her back. Such were the experiences of many, if not most, of those who tamed the wilderness and laid the foundations of the present prosperity and wealth of this county which their descendants now enjoy. Karl Moechnig himself was not fated to enjoy improved conditions for many years. Probably the hardships he underwent and the hard labor affected his health, and he died in March, 1873, at the age of 63 years, as he was born in 1810. His wife, who was born February 14, 1811, enjoyed a longer life, as she passed away at the age of 80 years on March 10, 1891. Her latter years were passed in comparative ease and comfort.

**Gottlieb Moechnig**, a prominent farmer of West Albany Township, residing in section 15, on the farm established by his parents in pioneer days, was born in Ober-Schloesing, Germany, August 2, 1850, son of Karl and Caroline Moechnig. He was but eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., and his boyhood days were often days of privation and want, owing to the wild nature of the country and his parents' poverty. He had little chance for schooling, and as soon as he was able to be of use on the farm his services were put into requisition. He remained on the home farm, which he helped to develop, and it ultimately came into his possession. On May 20, 1878, he married Mary Fick, who was born in West Albany Township, September 21, 1862, daughter of Frederick and Mary Fick, who were very early settlers in the township. After his marriage Mr. Moechnig bought 320 acres in Mt. Pleasant Township, where he and his wife went to reside. They remained on that farm for five years, but owing to drought and chinch bugs were unable to make any progress, and in fact were nearly ruined; so, discouraged with his misfortunes there, Mr. Moechnig let the land revert back to the previous owner, and returned to the home farm in section 15, West Albany, which he owned, together with an additional tract of 70 acres. He has replaced the original buildings with a comfortable two-story brick house, and has built good barns and sheds. When his father died, in 1873, only 60 acres of the land had been broken, but it is now nearly under cultivation. Mr. Moechnig has been a hard worker on his farm and has prospered. He acquired altogether about 1700 acres of land, some of which is in Wabasha County and some in North Dakota. He sold to his son Herman 360 in Oakwood Township, 143 acres to his son John, near the old home, and 160 to his son Fred in Lake Township, the balance being still in his own possession. In addition to his direct farming and land interests, he owns stock in the Farmers' Co-operative Elevators in Lake City and Thielman, the Terminal, the Terminal Packing Co. of Newport and the Pepin Co-operative Creamery in Lake City. His farm is well stocked with grade Shorthorn and Durham cattle, and Duroc swine, the herds having full-blooded sires at the head. He has 19 milch cows, and his operating equipment includes 12 good work horses. Mr. Moechnig is a Republican politically, and has served his township as supervisor, and also for some years as treasurer. He has been exceedingly prosperous and is today the heaviest taxpayer in the county among the farmers. He and his family are members of the West Albany M. E. Church. Mr. and Mrs. Moechnig are the parents of eight children: Herman, born September 21, 1880; Frederick W., born May 11, 1883; Lena, born April 26, 1885; John, January 11, 1887; Emma, August 12, 1890; Elsie, March 10, 1893, when one and one half year old, Elsie met with an accident which is the cause of her being an invalid since; Charles, November 4, 1896, and Harry, September 5, 1901. Herman is now a successful farmer in Oakwood Township. Frederick W., who is on the home farm, married Mamie Sass. She died January 29, 1915, leaving two children, who are now living with the subject of this sketch. Lena is the wife of Louis Sass of West Albany Township. John is a successful farmer in West Albany Township adjoining the old home farm. Emma is unmarried and residing on the home farm. Elsie is also at home. Charles is a farmer in Lake Township. Harry is on the home farm assisting his father.





GOTTLIEB MOECHNIG AND FAMILY







**Julius B. Blattner**, an industrious and well to do farmer of Oakwood Township, operating 200 acres in sections 20 and 21, was born on Long Creek, this township, October 11, 1869, son of J. H. and Ernestina Blattner. He was educated in the rural schools and followed agricultural pursuits on his parents' farm until attaining his majority, at which time he bought his present farm. On this he has made a number of improvements, including considerable fencing, and is carrying on diversified farming with much success, raising grade Short-horn cattle and Chester-White swine. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously to the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Democrat and formerly served in the office of constable. In 1914 he had the misfortune to lose his left leg as the result of blood poisoning. Mr. Blattner was married June 1, 1881, to Amanda Polson, daughter of Emric and Sophie (Johnson) Polson. He and his wife have been the parents of ten children: George, Ella, Henry, Elmer, Lester, Eli, Julius, Jr., Arthur, Lulu, and Vera. George, who married Ella Austin, is engaged in farming in Oakwood Township. Ella is the wife of William Rosenberg, a shoemaker of Plainview. Henry is operating a farm of 160 acres in section 9, that was bought by his father in 1903. Elmer is now conducting the home farm. Lulu is a resident of Rochester, Minn.

**William H. Brunkhorst**, the enterprising proprietor of a good farm in West Albany Township, was born in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, Minn., March 10, 1881, son of John and Caroline (Holst) Brunkhorst. The father was a native of Hanover, Germany, born November 24, 1850. He came to America, and directly to Goodhue County, Minn., in 1868, landing at Red Wing, but soon took up his residence at Frontenac, and for some time worked out as a farm hand. He was married to Caroline Holst in Goodhue County about 1880, and they settled in that county on a farm, on which they are still living, though now retired from active work, the farm being under the management of their sons Clarence and Edward. They had in all six children, of whom William H. was the eldest, the others being Amelia, Richard, Clarence, Edward and Edna. All except William are now living in Goodhue County. William H. Brunkhorst, who was brought up on his parents' farm, attended country school up to the age of sixteen, at which time he began working out. He lived with his parents until 1913, in which year, on August 10, he was married to Anna Margaret Bruer, who was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, this county, August 5, 1890, daughter of John and Marie Bruer, of Lake Township. Her parents were natives of Germany. After their marriage Mr. Brunkhorst and his wife began housekeeping on her parents' farm in Lake Township, which they rented for three years. In the spring of 1916 Mr. Brunkhorst bought an improved farm, known as the Schmusser farm, of 160 acres, in section 4, West Albany Township. It was provided with a two-story brick house, and with fair barns and outbuildings. He also purchased 20 acres of timberland in section 34, in the same township; and thus provided with land and buildings, he has since pursued a successful career as a general farmer, now having 125 acres under the plow. He keeps a good grade of cattle and swine, and his operating equipment is up to date and adequate. The farm lies seven miles south of Lake City. Mr. Brunkhorst and his family are members of St. John's (Lutheran) congregation of Lake City. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Arnold John, Norman Lawrence, Evelyn Mary, and Wilbert Edward. Politically Mr. Brunkhorst is independent. As an industrious and capable farmer and good neighbor he stands high in the community.

**Herman E. Lohse**, a retired farmer, formerly of Oakwood Township, but now living in Rochester, was born in Germany, January 3, 1862, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Lohse. His mother's family name was Bornhold. The parents were also natives of Germany, where the father died in 1880. The widowed mother came to this country three years later, in 1883, and resided with her son in Oakwood Township until her death in 1907. She and her husband were



members of the German Lutheran church. They had three children: Henry, now living at Potsdam, Minn.; Johannas, who is deceased; and Herman E., of Rochester. Herman E. Lohse was educated in Germany and came to the United States in 1880, at the age of 18 years, settling at Millville, Wabasha County, Minn. For 16 years thereafter he was engaged in farm labor near Bremen's Corners. In 1895 he married, his bride being Martha Lubitz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Lubitz, natives of Germany who came to America in 1889, and farmed for a number of years in Oakwood Township, this county. In the year following his marriage Mr. Lohse began farming for himself, renting a farm for three years in Oakwood Township. In 1899 he bought a farm of 160 acres in sections 7 and 13, on which he erected all the buildings, also fencing the entire farm and setting out an orchard, besides shade trees. He followed mixed farming and kept a large amount of stock, his hogs being of the Poland-China breed. In March, 1916, the Lohse household was afflicted by a tragedy, Mrs. Lohse being accidentally drowned while driving with a team of horses to visit her mother. After her death Mr. Lohse rented his farm, and moved to Rochester, where he is now living with his wife's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Duell. In 1919 he sold his farm in Oakwood. His religious affiliations are with the German Lutheran church. While not a pioneer of Wabasha County, he resided within its limits for nearly forty years, and was identified with its growth and development, and his numerous friends and acquaintances are for the most part residents of the county.

**Ernest E. Schultz**, formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits in Zumbro Township, but now retired and residing in Rochester, Minn., was born in Winona County, Minn., January 17, 1859. His parents, Christ and Caroline (Gerwin) Schultz, were natives of Germany who came to the United States in the late forties, settling in Wisconsin. Thence they moved to Winona County, Minnesota, and later to Wabasha County, where they took a homestead farm, which property they developed. There they finally passed away, Christ Schultz on April 27, 1895, and his wife on April 17, the same year, death thus separating them for only ten days. They were members of the German Lutheran church. They had ten children, Charles, Godfrey, Christ, Jr., August, Ernest, Herman, Adolph, Louisa, Anna and Emily. Of these children four are now deceased, namely, Christ, August, Adolph and Louisa. Ernest E. Schultz acquired his education in the district school, Wabasha County. Brought up on the home farm, he worked for his father for a number of years, but in 1884 started out for himself, renting a farm in Zumbro Township, which he carried on for two years. In 1897 he bought 160 acres in section 24, the same township, and was there engaged for several years in general farming and stock raising. In 1891 he began operating a threshing-machine, an occupation at which he continued during the season for ten years, at other times doing various kinds of manual labor, principally of an agricultural nature. In 1914 he bought the old home farm, which he operated until the spring of 1920, when he retired. Since then he has resided in Rochester, where he has a nice residence. Mr. Schultz was married November 9, 1892, to Emma Waltman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Waltman, her parents being natives of Germany who came to Minnesota in 1880 and engaged in farming in Hyde Park Township, Wabasha County. Their family consisted of three children, Otilia, Emma and John. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz are the parents of one child, Arthur F., who is at present residing at home with them. Mr. Schultz and family are members of the Lutheran church.

**John G. Moechnig**, a well-known farmer of West Albany Township, residing in section 15, on a farm of 223 acres, was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, Minn., January 11, 1888, son of Gottlieb and Mary (Fick) Moechnig. His grandparents, Karl and Caroline Moechnig, were pioneers in West Albany, arriving there in 1858. After suffering many hardships, owing to poverty and the wildness of the country at that time, they got a farm started,



which subsequently came into possession of their son Gottlieb, who enlarged and improved it, and, with his wife and several of his children, is still residing thereon. He has also bought much other land, both in Wabasha County and in North Dakota. Some of the former he has sold to three of his sons, including the subject of this sketch. John G. Moechnig was accorded the educational facilities afforded by the rural school. He grew up on his parents' farm and was engaged in assisting his father until September, 1912, at which time he began his independent career, buying from his father 143 acres in section 15, adjoining the old home farm. In 1919 he added to his land another tract, of 80 acres, and now has 175 acres under the plow. On his original purchase was a good house and some other buildings, the latter being in fair condition. To improve the farm, Mr. Moechnig has built a new barn, 34 by 100 by 14 feet, with a full basement of 8½ feet for stock, and provided with a full modern equipment. The farm lies eight and a half miles south of Lake City, and five miles from Theilman, which village is his principal market. Mr. Moechnig is a good worker and has made substantial progress. He carries on general farming, giving particular attention to the breeding of pure-blooded Shorthorn and Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He owns an auto car, and is a stockholder in the Pepin Co-operative Creamery of Lake City, the Farmers' Co-operative Elevators at Lake City and Theilman, the Terminal Packing Plant at Newport, and the Wabasha "Leader." Politically he is a Republican with independent tendencies, and holds the office of justice of the peace. Mr. Moechnig was married, June 12, 1912, to Flora Celestia Blohm, who was born June 13, 1887, daughter of William and Ida Blohm, of Gillford Township. To him and his wife two children have been born: Marvel Celestia, on March 20, 1914, and Marcella Geneva, on November 8, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Moechnig are members of West Albany M. E. church.

**William O. Polson**, a prominent farmer of Oakwood Township, operating 240 acres, was born on his present farm, September 9, 1884, son of Emric and Sophie (Johnson) Polson. His education was acquired in rural district No. 44, and he was subsequently associated with his father in agricultural operations on the home farm until 1918. He then bought the property, which includes 240 acres, located in sections 21 and 28, and is here engaged in diversified farming and stock raising, keeping Shorthorn cattle, for general purposes, and Chester-White hogs. His operations are conducted on a scientific and profitable basis, the farm, capably managed, proving a good source of income. Mr. Polson is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association at Millville. He was married, June 14, 1917, to Lela Olin, who was born in Brainerd, Minn., March 25, 1897, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Olin. Their union has been blessed with two children: Emric O., born May 24, 1918; and Paul F., born October 24, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Polson attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Hein D. Hinck**, who is successfully engaged in agriculture in section 17, West Albany Township, was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, Minn., June 22, 1894, son of Peter and Engel Hinck. The parents were among the early settlers in this region, their farm being located in Gilbert Valley. Hein D. was educated in the district school and acquired his agricultural training on the home farm, where he resided up to the age of 22 years. He then removed to his father's farm in section 17, West Albany Township, which he has since been engaged in operating. It contains 160 acres, of which 110 are under the plow, the balance being in timber and pasture. He owns the stock and operating equipment, including all necessary machinery, together with four good horses, and is carrying on general farming on a profitable basis, being a practical man in his line and a hard and steady worker. Politically he is a Republican. Being unmarried, his household is presided over by a sister. Mr. Hinck was reared in the faith of the Lutheran church and is a member of the Belvidere congregation. He has a wide acquaintance and is popular among his fellow citizens.







financial success and he is now in the enjoyment of an ample competence. Mr. Heise personally operated the farm until 1918, in which year he retired from active work and leased it to his son August, who owns the stock and operating equipment. The entire farm is under cultivation. Mr. Heise has been able to give all his sons a good start in life. He is well known and highly respected in West Albany Township and the vicinity, and though now 71 years old, is still hale and hearty, with good prospects of enjoying life for a number of years to come. He and his wife have had six children, as follows: Frederick and Charles, who are farmers in Gillford Township; Johanna, who married Charles Krett, a farmer of Gillford Township, and died April 27, 1919; Gustav, who is farming in Gillford Township; August, born October 30, 1882, who is now operating the home farm on his own account; Lillian, born March 10, 1893, who is residing at home. The five elder children were born in Germany, and Lillian in West Albany Township. August, in addition to his interest in the home farm, is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Co. of Theilman, and the Terminal Packing Co. of Newport. He is a member of the Non-Partisan League. Mr. Heise and his family are members of the Jacksonville congregation of the Lutheran church.

**Edward Hall**, a former resident of Oakwood Township, where for a number of years he was engaged in agriculture, was a native of Ireland. After emigrating to Canada, he was there married to Maria Elems, and together they came to the United States, stopping for a while in New York State, and later in Michigan, where Mr. Hall found employment in the copper mines at Rockland. In 1866 he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, buying a farm of 160 acres in section 25, Oakwood Township. Here he left his family and returned to Silva Island, Canada, where he worked for two years, earning and saving money. He then returned to his farm in Oakwood Township, this county, and was subsequently engaged in general farming here until his death on July 4, 1893. His wife is still living and is now a resident of Plainview. They were the parents of nine children: Catherine, who married Charles Harlan, of this township, both she and her husband being now deceased; James E., who lives in North Dakota; Marie, wife of J. H. Harlan, of Langdon, N. D.; John M., who died in North Dakota in March, 1915; Theresa, who was the wife of R. H. Tombs and died in California in 1903. Thomas F., of Oakwood Township; Bird J., who married R. O. Halelelid of North Dakota; Frances E., wife of J. P. Waste of Plainview; and Edward R. Hall of Winona.

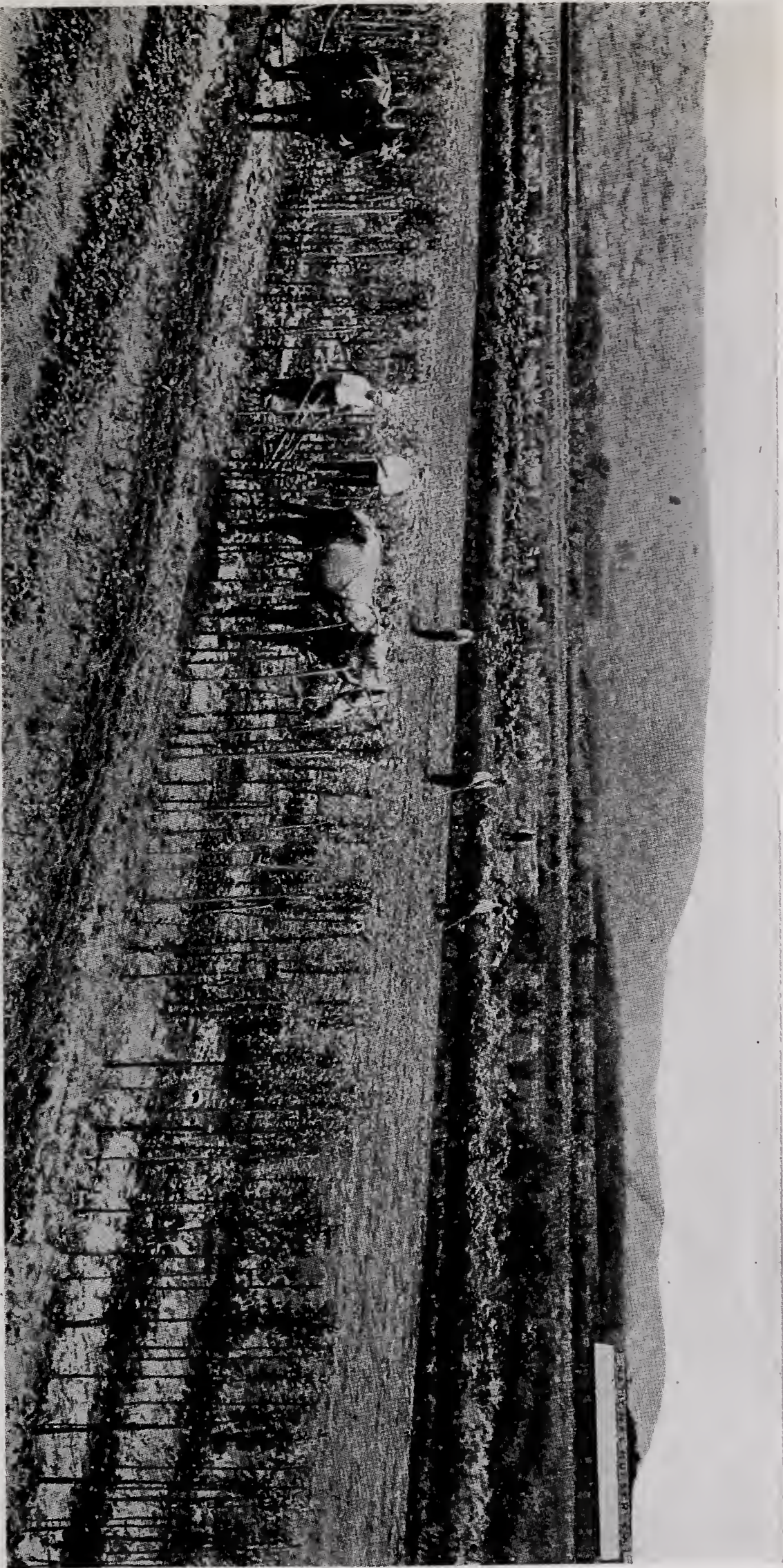
**Thomas F. Hall** acquired his elementary education in the rural schools and was a student for one year in the Plainview high school. His early industrial experience was on the river, and he also spent two years in the woods at lumbering. In 1890 he took up farming on the home farm, but later bought 80 acres, being the west half of the northeast quarter of section 25, adjoining the home farm, on which he carried on agriculture for some years, and where he still lives, though for the last ten years he has rented out the place to a tenant. He has made a number of improvements on the property, including the erection of a barn, 36 by 80 feet, with full basement, and all outbuildings. These structures were all built from timber which grew on his farm. He has also rebuilt and stuccoed his house and added to it a large screen porch. Mr. Hall is a member of the Catholic church and also of the Independent Order of Foresters. He has served two years as chairman of the town board and for a number of years was school clerk. He was married June 2, 1903, to Caroline C. Gessner, who was born in Highland Township, February 26, 1876, daughter of J. M. and Theresa M. (Noll) Gessner. Her parents, natives respectively of Wisconsin and Indiana, settled in Wabasha County about 1865. The father died October 29, 1908, and was survived by his wife, who is now a resident of Plainview. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Hall eight children have been born: Theresa M., April 10, 1904; Inez L., September 2, 1905; Myrtle F., April 16, 1907; Lester E., January 29, 1909; Thomas C., January 2, 1911; Ralph J., March 4, 1913; Mildred M., October 26, 1915; and Mary E., October 2, 1917.



**John F. Anderson**, proprietor of the National Nursery, one of the important and growing business concerns of Lake City, was born in Sweden, May 22, 1870, and came to America in 1872 with his parents, the family settling in Lund, Wisconsin. The father was a tailor by occupation, and the family numbered twelve children, of whom six are now living. The parents also survive and reside in a comfortable home next to that of their son John. At the age of fourteen years John F. Anderson entered the employ of the Jewell Nursery Co. at Lake City, and remained with them altogether for 29 years. He also spent some time with the Rose Hill Nursery Co. of Minneapolis, and with these two concerns learned every detail of the business. In the fall of 1910 he, with his brother, Axel Anderson, and Emil Bellman, started in the nursery business on Iowa street, in the south end of Lake City, beginning on sixteen acres of land. Two years later Mr. Bellman sold his interest to Edward Anderson, a brother of John and Axel, and the business was then organized as the National Nursery Co. In 1918 John F. Anderson became the sole proprietor and has retained the old name of the concern. The business has grown to considerable dimensions, and draws its supplies principally from territory in Wisconsin and North Dakota. Previous to the entrance of the United States into the World War, the concern employed eight traveling salesmen, but the war took some of its men, and since then they have done a large wholesale business, supplying other nurseries with stock, which they grow on contract. Frugal and industrious, Mr. Anderson has accumulated all he has through his own personal efforts. He owns a comfortable home at 414 S. Sixth street. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Equitable Fraternal Union, and is also a member of the Swedish Sick Benefit Co., all of Lake City. Politically he is independent, voting for the man rather than with any particular party. Mr. Anderson was married October 26, 1896, to Alma Soderstrom, who was born in Pepin County, Wisconsin, one of the seven children (three daughters and four sons) of Peter and Mary Soderstrom. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been the parents of six children, three of whom died in infancy. The other three who are living, are: Glenn A., born January 26, 1898; Helen V., born July 4, 1903, and Maurice W., born May 8, 1913. The family are members of the Swedish (or Second) Congregational Church of Lake City.

**William Howatt**, now living retired in Lake City, after a long and successful career in agriculture, was born in the parish of Rothiemay, county of Banff, Scotland, September 14, 1842, son of John and Ann (Christie) Howatt. He lived at home until the spring of 1869, when he emigrated to the United States, coming directly to Lake City, Minn., where he has acquaintances, and arriving here May 1. In the Scotch Settlement in West Albany Township he entered the employ of William Perry, for whom he worked one year, being paid \$200 for the year's work. About this time he received news of his father's death and returned to Scotland, while, being the eldest son, he took part in arranging the family affairs. Of the other four children—Ann, John, James and Christina—only one came to America, namely, John, who died in 1910. Ann is living, the others are dead. After his return to Scotland, William remained there about 14 years. He was there married August 7, 1874, to Isabella, daughter of Alexander and Jessie Lobban, who resided in the same neighborhood as the Howatt family. In 1884, Mr. Howatt returned to Wabasha County, Minn., accompanied by his wife and family, and bought an improved farm of 200 acres near Smithfield post office. This farm was located about six miles northeast of Plainview, and had fairly good buildings. After operating it until 1895, he sold it to William Koenig of Plainview, and moved to Mt. Pleasant Township, buying the George Watson farm of 280 acres in sections 25 and 36. On that place he farmed for eleven years, or until his retirement in 1905, when he took up his residence in Lake City, buying a home on the corner of Lyon avenue and Oak street, where he is now living. On his retirement he rented his farm to his son William, retaining its ownership until 1920, when he sold it to Henry





NATIONAL NURSERY: JOHN ANDERSON









Geppert of West Albany township. While residing in Highland Township (near Smithfield) Mr. Howatt served as a member of the school board, and he has also rendered service in the same capacity in Mt. Pleasant Township. Politically he is a Republican, while he is fraternally affiliated with Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, A. F. & A. M. Both he and his wife were reared in the faith of the Free Church of Scotland, but subsequently united with the First Congregational Church of Lake City, of which they have long been active members and liberal supporters. They have been the parents of five children: William I., born May 3, 1875; Jessie Ann, born August 12, 1876; Isabella, born August 24, 1878; John, born October 21, 1880, and Alexander, born August 14, 1883. The last mentioned, who was a bank employee in Minneapolis, died August 28, 1908. Jessie Ann is now the wife of Henry Young, of Dairy Brook Farm, Lake City. She is the mother of eight children: Clarence, Gladys, Violet, Roy, Marion, Harold, Alice and Genevieve. Isabella is the wife of Mellville Coulter, a dentist of Mankato, and has three children, Preston, Melva, Jean and James. John, who is chief engineer for the board of education of Chicago, married Della Freckholm, and has had two children, William, now deceased, and Gordon. In 1898 Mr. and Mrs. Howatt went to Scotland on a visit, and arrived home just a week before the death of their son Alexander. The winter of 1919-20 they spent at Long Beach, California. They have many friends in Lake City and elsewhere in Wabasha County, and are as highly respected as they are well known.

**William Killeen**, now deceased, who left behind him the record of one of Wabasha County's hardy pioneers, was born in Ireland about 1825, the third of a family of six children, the two elder being Lucy and Elizabeth, and the three younger, Mary, Joseph and Catherine. His parents died when he was a mere boy, and when he was 15 he and his sisters and brother emigrated to the United States. He had had little schooling, but was naturally shrewd and determined, knowing no such word as fail. After a residence for some time in New York State he and the other members of the family came to Wabasha County, Minn., being among the first settlers at Lake City. At that time very few farms had been started, the country was in its primitive state of wildness, wolves were abundant in the woods, and the Indians were numerous. In 1859 Mr. Killeen pre-empted 160 acres of wild land on section 16, Lake Township, four and a half miles from Lake City, and began the laborious work of developing a farm. To live all alone in such a wilderness for any great length of time, without social intercourse, and at night listening to the howling of the wolves in the surrounding timber, would have made any man turn melancholy, if not go insane, and nearly all the pioneers, when they took land to develop, took also wives for companionship, domestic felicity and mutual aid. Prompted by these reasons, and also by those of affection, Mr. Killeen, in the spring of 1861, was united in marriage at Lake City to Anne Finnerty, daughter of James and Catherine Finnerty, of that place. She was born in Ireland in 1835, and had come to this country on a sailing vessel with friends at the age of 15, the voyage occupying a number of weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Killeen worked hard together developing their farm and building up a home, and in time their labors were crowned with success. Before Mr. Killeen's death he had accumulated four quarter sections of land. He was always ready to invest on a favorable opportunity, whether he had the money at the time or not, but his debts and pecuniary obligations were always paid at the appointed time and his credit was always good. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1872, he was numbered among the prosperous citizens of his township, and was a man highly respected. He was a Democrat, though not active in politics, and he and his family were faithful Catholics in religion and members of St. Mary's parish at Lake City. In 1899 Mrs. Killeen left the farm and removed to Lake City, where she died, highly esteemed. Mr. and Mrs. Killeen had six children: Charles H., Catherine M., Luvy C., George W., William J. and Anastasia. Those now living

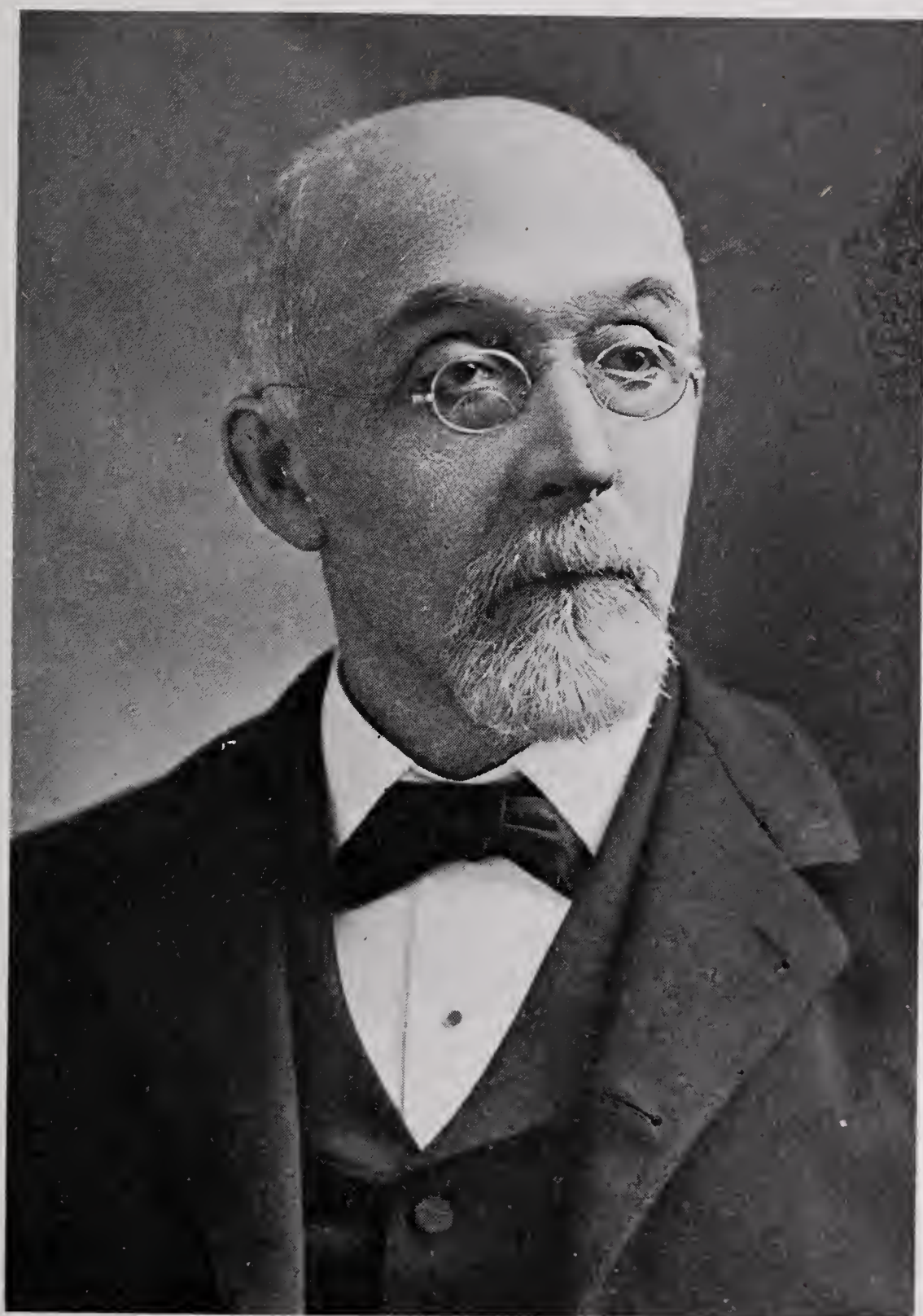


are Charles and Lucy, both unmarried and residents of Lake City; and George W., who is on the home farm.

**George W. Killeen**, a well known and prosperous farmer of section 26, Lake Township, was born in this township May 18, 1865, son of William and Anne (Finnerty) Killeen. His parents were pioneer settlers of the township, the father arriving here in 1859 and starting the farm on which the subject of this sketch now lives. The latter as soon as he was old enough attended country school and for nearly 30 years remained on the home farm, after his father's death in 1872 operating the farm for the mother. In 1894 he moved to Lake City, where he was engaged in the meat business, and also in horse dealing, until 1900. During the first two years of this period he rented out the farm, and during the last four operated with hired help. On May 17, 1899, Mr. Killeen married Anna May O'Brien, daughter of Richard and Margaret O'Brien of Lake Township, he and his wife having grown up on adjoining farms, whence a mutual acquaintance had sprung up. In 1900 Mr. Killeen returned to the home farm, taking his wife with him, and since then it has been their home. It contains 160 acres and is situated four and a half miles south of Lake City. The residence is a good brick house consisting of an upright and wing, and two stories in height. The ground dimensions of the barn are 36 by 66 feet, and there is a granary, 22 by 32; a machine shed, 30 by 40; poultry shed, 18 by 30, and a corn crib with a capacity of 1,000 bushels. The farm is well stocked with a good grade of cattle and swine, and Mr. Killeen's operating equipment including a Ford truck. Altogether, he has a well improved place and is doing a successful business as a general farmer, being a thoroughly competent man in his line of industry, with a sound practical training. He is, moreover, a good American, and was actively identified with the various war drives during the recent unpleasantness with Germany. In politics he is a Democrat and has served as clerk of his school district. To Mr. and Mrs. Killeen four children have been born: Mary Irene, August 8, 1901; George Kenneth, February 15, 1903; Francis William, May 23, 1904; and Florence Mildred, August 18, 1905. Mary Irene is a student in St. Theresa College, Winona; Kenneth and Florence Mildred in the Lake City high school, and Francis William in St. Mary's Catholic College for boys at Winona. Mrs. Killeen, who was born in Lake Township, April 19, 1876, has proved a good helpmate to her husband and together they are bringing up a family of sons and daughters who show bright promise of future usefulness.

**Lucas Kuehn**, founder of the Kuehn Mercantile Company, one of the largest and most important business enterprises in Wabasha, which he is still operating, is a favorable type of the "self-made" man, having risen from comparative poverty to a high position in the business world through his own exertions and the exercise of sound judgment. He was born in Baden, Germany, October 18, 1834, son of Michael and Cordelia (Bauman) Kuehn, his father being a linen weaver by occupation. In 1852 the family emigrated to the United States, settling first in Ohio, where they resided for three years. Lucas, who was 18 years old when he arrived in this country, found employment at ore mining, and showed such ability and close attention to his duties that in a year and a half, though still very young, he was made foreman, his father and brother working under him. In 1855 the family made another removal, setting out with the intention of going to St. Paul by way of Dubuque, to which latter place they journeyed overland, and there took passage for their ultimate destination on an up-river steamer. While on the boat, however, the father heard that it would be impossible to procure a house in St. Paul, so he, with his wife and children, left the boat at Read's Landing, just above Wabasha. That night, the night of May 12, 1855, they spent on a woodpile, being unable to find shelter. Early the next morning Lucas found employment, being engaged to run log rafts down the Mississippi to Dubuque and other points, and saying goodbye to the other members of the family, left for down the river. At that employ-





LUCUS KUEHN







ment he spent one season, and for the next two worked on board a river boat under Capt. James. In September, 1858, being as yet unmarried, he settled in Wabasha, and built a cheap house on a site near the location of the present Wabasha Hospital. In this house he took up his residence with a sister, and for a few years subsequently followed various occupations. In 1862 he laid the foundation stone of his present prosperity by building an oven and starting a bakery, selling his wares from a rented room opposite his bakeshop. His capital, when he began this enterprise, consisted of a five-dollar gold piece, with which he purchased his first supply of flour, his pans and dishes being obtained on credit. Two years later, in 1864, he disposed of his bakery and entered into the dry goods and grocery business, in which he made good progress, so that in 1868 he was able to erect a substantial two-story brick and stone building on the corner of Main and Alleghany streets, having a front of 20 feet on the former and 80 feet on the latter thoroughfare. In that store, as it then stood, he did business until 1874, when he enlarged it by building an addition of 40 feet on the east, which addition with the original building constitutes his present place of business, the largest store in Wabasha. The upper story of the block has long been occupied by attorneys and physicians and the editorial and composing rooms of the Wabasha Herald. As early as 1883 Mr. Kuehn employed eight clerks, while since then the growth of his business has been impressive, if not phenomenal; and, though now in his eighty-fifth year, he guides it with a firm and sure hand, ably assisted by his son-in-law, Henry Schwedes. At the early period above mentioned, Mr. Kuehn, besides conducting his store, furnished from a tract of 640 acres of timber land that he owned across the river in Buffalo County, Wisconsin, thousands of ties, with timber and wood, to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, operating portable mills on the land, and teaming the product to the railroad site in West Wabasha. A number of years ago Mr. Kuehn was made president of the First National Bank, but the pressing demands of his other business interests caused him to resign that position at the end of two years. In the early eighties, seeing the need of a good hotel for the city, he built the Commercial Hotel on the corner of Main and Bailey streets, a house of 40 rooms, which is still standing and in good condition, and which is now held by other parties on a lease. It was by means of such quick observation and foresight, and readiness to take advantage of a good opportunity, that he steadily advanced his fortunes, at the same time rendering a service to his fellow citizens and helping to promote the general prosperity. Through all his successes, however, he has remained modest and unostentatious, being satisfied to do things without the blare of trumpets, except when publicity was necessary to accomplish the desired results. In such cases the publicity has been given to the enterprise to be advanced, his own personality being kept as much as possible in the background. In politics he has never been a strong party man, preferring to support the best candidate regardless of party affiliations. Religiously he was reared a Catholic, but long since ceased church attendance. He has, however, been liberal in the support of all churches and the worthy causes set on foot by them. He is a charter member of Teutonic Lodge, No. 19, I.O.O.F., of Wabasha. Also a member of the Rebeccas. Mr. Kuehn was married Nov. 30, 1858, to Clara Guenther, who was born in Baden, Germany, December 8, 1840, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Guenther, and whom he saw in Baden when she was eight years of age. She had come to this country in 1855 with one sister, the parents being already here. After a married life of over 58 years, the happiness of which was tempered only by the loss of several of her children, she died in Wabasha, September 8, 1917. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kuehn were as follows: Louise, born in 1859, who died in childhood; Mary Magdalene, born November 23, 1861, who became the wife of Henry Schwedes, and died in Wabasha May 12, 1918; Julia, born July 13, 1863, now deceased; Louise (second), born July 11, 1866, now Mrs. J. Achenbach, of Wabasha; Emil, born November 27, 1868,



who is practicing dentistry in Wabasha; Clara, born August 16, 1871, who is the wife of William Burg, a banker of Portland, Ore.; and Frank, born April 17, 1873, who is a practicing dentist in Minneapolis, Minn.

**Charles J. Pearson.**—In the settlement of a new community the blacksmith follows close on the heels of the farmer, and his trade is usually the second to be represented, as without his assistance the farmer would be handicapped, or would have to shoe his own draught animals and mend his own tools and implements. Consequently the smallest hamlet has its blacksmith shop, or there is one not far away, and around its door the village urchins love to stand and with fascinated eyes watch the brawny smith draw the glowing iron from his furnace and weld it upon his ponderous anvil into the necessary horseshoes or other useful article. A sturdy representative of this ancient trade in Lake City is Charles J. Pearson, who is a master of his craft. He was born in the province of Smoland, Sweden, February 25, 1862, son of Gustav and Angeline Pearson. His parents died when he was young and he was placed under the guardianship of an uncle. At the age of ten he was placed with a blacksmith—a Mr. Ostrom—to learn the trade and be educated. He had to work mornings and evenings, blowing the bellows and doing other work about the shop for his keep, and in addition his guardian had to pay the blacksmith a certain sum annually. Young Pearson remained with Mr. Ostrom four years, after which he spent one year on a farm. At the age of 16 he went to work for another blacksmith, with whom he remained two years. After that he worked at his trade in his native land until 1887, when he came to America. Landing at New York, he came directly to Lake City, and after arriving here worked as a farm hand for two years and a half. He then entered the employ of Ole Chinberg, a blacksmith in Lake City, with whom he remained for thirteen and a half years. On February 25, 1903, Mr. Pearson bought his present shop and business at the corner of Washington and Chestnut streets, which he has since operated successfully, having built up a prosperous trade and being well known, not only by the townspeople, but by the farmers for miles around, for whom he does shoeing and other blacksmith work. In politics he is a Democrat, but above all a true American who took out his naturalization papers as early as possible, has lived up to the spirit of American institutions, and has served Lake City as a member of its council for the past six years or more. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and Red Men's lodges and to the Scandinavian Benevolent Society of Lake City. Mr. Pearson was married April 11, 1893, to Hannah Rose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Rose, and a native of Sweden who came to Wabasha County with friends when a young girl. The children of this marriage are as follows: Reuben, born February 2, 1894, who since 1917 has been a clerk in a shoe establishment in Seattle, Wash.; Milton, born May 3, 1895, who is in the United States service in France; Marena, born August 26, 1897, a graduate of the Lake City high school, who is now teaching music in Grand Forks; Harold, born November 11, 1899, a graduate of Lake City high school, now working with his father; Elna, born April 26, 1903, who is a student in the Lake City high school; and Maurice, born November 28, 1906, who is in the high school.

**Albert J. Foelsch**, a representative farmer of Plainview Township, residing in section 23, was born in Sanilac County, Michigan, November 30, 1858, son of William and Sophia (Nurnberg) Foelsch. The parents were natives of Germany, in which country they were married in 1853. Coming to the United States the same year, they located in Sanilac County, Michigan, where for six years William Foelsch worked in sawmills. In 1859 he moved with his family to Buffalo County, Wisconsin, taking 40 acres of land, which he grubbed and cleared, erecting a log house, and subsequently other buildings, until he had developed a farm. At the age of 62 years he retired, and in 1905 he passed away, at the age of 73 years. His wife died in 1914. They were the parents of six children: Louisa, who married Nick Heck, but is now deceased; Albert









HENRY BURKHARDT



OTTO BURKHARDT



J., the direct subject of this sketch; Gusta, wife of Charles Heck, of Lake City, her husband being now retired; John L., who is residing on the old home farm in Buffalo County, Wisconsin; Annie, wife of Henry Dorman, residing near Minneiska, Wabasha County; and Julius, who is living in Winona County. Albert J. Foelsch in his boyhood attended school in Buffalo City, Wis. He remained on the home farm until attaining his majority, after which for a number of years he worked on farms except one summer, which he spent on the river. In 1898 he came to Wabasha County and bought his present farm of 160 acres in section 23, which was then but slightly improved. The other improvements, including fences, have been made by himself, and he has brought the farm into good condition. He keeps grade Durham cattle and follows general farming with profitable results, being now numbered among the prosperous citizens of his township, which he served one term as path master. Mr. Foelsch was married, November 1, 1888, to Mary Baab, who was born in Minneiska, Wabasha County, Minn., April 3, 1870. He and his wife have had three children: Dorothy, born July 31, 1889; Elsie, born June 20, 1894, who died October 31, 1918; and Estella, born April 23, 1897. Dorothy married Fay Wood, of Plainview village, and has three children, Stanley, Leolo and Marie. Estella is the wife of Clarence Roen, of Owatonna, Minn.

**Otto Burkhardt**, proprietor of a well equipped moving-picture theatre in Wabasha city, known as the Princess, where he owns valuable real estate, is a man who has achieved prosperity through his own energy, talent, and business ability. He was born at Read's Landing, this county, March 28, 1864, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Burgher) Burkhardt, his parents having settled in the county five years previous to his birth. He acquired a common school education, and when old enough became associated in the meat business with his father, of which for some years he was the manager, up to 1898. From 1881 to 1886 he also served as deputy sheriff, under his father, who was then sheriff. In March, 1898, Mr. Burkhardt moved to Crookston, Minn., where he entered into the meat business. He also became proprietor of the "Cleveland Hotel" there, which he conducted on a profitable basis for 16 years, having from 75 to 80 steady boarders, and also leasing a number of outside rooms to accommodate his overflow guests. He owned a fine residence opposite his hotel, as well as the building in which he carried on his market. At the same time he was actively interested in the musical life of the city, organizing the Crookston Brass Band, a fine organization, in which he played trombone or baritone, as the occasion required, and his connection with the band lasted for three years. Through these various fields of activity he became well known and one of the prominent and respected citizens of Crookston. But finally he determined to return to Wabasha County, which he did in July, 1913, selling his Crookston interests. Buying the Charles Read property in West Wabasha, formerly Reads, he was there engaged in market gardening until 1919. He also purchased two adjoining business blocks on Pembroke street, Wabasha, in one of which he started his sons, Irvin and Harry, in business, and in the other building, in 1914, he opened a moving-picture house, which he has since operated, and which is supplied with a fine orchestra from members of his own family. To this enterprise he now gives his chief attention and is conducting a prosperous business. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he rose to the office of grand master, and also to the camp of Good Samaritans, in Wabasha. For two years formerly he was trustee of the village of Read's Landing. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Otto Burkhardt married Sophia, daughter of Jacob and Mary Burkhardt, of Read's Landing, and he and his wife have been the parents of six children, of whom three are now deceased. The record in brief is as follows: Irvin, born September 27, 1885, now engaged in business in Wabasha; Charles, born July 20, 1887, deceased; Harry, born February 28, 1889, in business in Wabasha; Cornelia, born December 1, 1891, deceased; Glendora, born July 26, 1894, died at Crookston,



Minn.; Elizabeth, born April 7, 1896, who is residing with her parents. Mr. Burkhardt and his family are members of the Swiss Lutheran church.

**Henry Burkhardt**, who passed away but a few years ago, was a notable pioneer of Wabasha County, for many years engaged in an important industry, for several years a state senator, and at various times an efficient servant of the people in local office. He was born in Switzerland, May 23, 1836, and came to the United States in 1854, at the age of 18 years, locating at Marine, Madison County, Ills. There he married Elizabeth Burgher, who was, like himself, a native of Switzerland. Mr. Burkhardt's residence at Marine covered a period of about five years, during which he was engaged in farming, brickmaking, and also in the operation of a butcher shop. It is probable that none of these operations proved very profitable at that place, as in 1859 Mr. Burkhardt came with his family to Wabasha, Minnesota. Here he engaged in the meat business, for which he found a good opening, as he supplied boats plying on the Mississippi river, and also the logging companies operating on Beef Slough. In 1861 he changed the base of his operations by removing to Read's Landing, where he continued in the meat business, also buying and shipping livestock. A powerfully built man, he often shouldered a 200-pound barrel of pork and carried it from his shop to the river bank for boats. There he also held the office of chief of police, a job that was no sinecure, as many rough characters from the logging camps and elsewhere visited the Landing, after being paid off, and as whiskey was both cheap and abundant, fights and disturbances were not infrequent. Mr. Burkhardt was a good man for the position, though strong and muscular, he was even tempered and not excitable, or inclined to "lose his head." Subsequently he returned to Wabasha, where he continued in the meat business, which he followed successfully until his death on January 30, 1915, when in his seventy-ninth year. In the accumulation of wealth, however, he was handicapped by an over-generous disposition, as he lost considerable money by signing notes for friends. He was a widely known and highly esteemed citizen, of the type naturally looked to for public service. He was county commissioner from 1877 to 1881, and in the fall of the latter year was elected sheriff of Wabasha County, in which office he served with credit for five years. He was then elected to the state senate, serving therein from 1887 to 1895. While in the senate he introduced a bill providing for the manufacture of binding twine in the state prison at Stillwater, and the installation of machinery for the same, this bill being passed through his efforts, April 19, 1889. In politics Mr. Burkhardt was a Republican. He was faithful to every trust reposed in him, and with his passing away Wabasha County lost one of its old time citizens whose record forms an honorable page in its history. His wife died at Wabasha in August, 1905. They had come to this country with their respective parents on the same sailing vessel, and at the same time, landing together after a seven weeks' voyage, and after their marriage at Marine, Ills., had lived in happy wedlock for half a century until separated by death. They were the parents of ten children, Rudolph, Henry, Emil, Otto, Fanny, Anna, Bertha, Henry, Paul and Edwin. Rudolph, born December 27, 1855, is now a resident of Crookston, Minn., where he holds the office of deputy sheriff. Henry, Emil and Paul are deceased. Otto is now a prominent citizen of Wabasha. Fanny, born March 4, 1866, is the wife of Charles Collier, of Alberta, Canada. Anna, born March 24, 1868, is the wife of John McDonald, of Read's Landing, Minn. Bertha, born April 5, 1870, is the wife of Joseph Koehlmel, of Wabasha. Henry, born June 12, 1872, is a resident of Nashua, Mont. Edwin, born February 13, 1878, resides with his brother Otto in Wabasha. Henry Burkhardt, the father, was a charter member of Wapahassa Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and of the Royal Arch Chapter, No. 14, at Wabasha; also of the Odd Fellows lodge here. He and his family were members of the Swiss Lutheran church of Wabasha, to which the surviving members of the family here resident belong.

**Albert G. Goetz**, who owns and operates a good farm of 157 acres in Section 32, Plainview Township, was born in Dakota, January 16, 1882, son of Mr. and



Mrs. August Goetz. His education was acquired in the public schools, while he thoroughly learned agriculture on his parents' farm in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, continuing as his father's assistant until he was twenty years old. He then rented the farm from his father and operated it under rental until 1918, when he bought it. The property is well improved, the soil being fertile and yielding good crops, and the buildings substantial and adequate. Among the latter is a good corn shed erected by Mr. Goetz. He does diversified farming, raising cabbage and potatoes in addition to grain, while his stock is all of a good grade. His operations have been profitable and he is now numbered among the well-to-do farmers of Plainview Township. He is a man who takes an intelligent interest in public affairs, and is serving efficiently in the office of school director. Politically he is independent. Albert G. Goetz was united in marriage with Emma Schuchard, who was born March 15, 1890. He and his wife are the parents of four children, all residing at home, and who were born as follows: Glenn L., December 18, 1910; Luetta R., May 31, 1912; Clifford M., October 28, 1913; and Violet R., May 31, 1915. Mr. Goetz and his family are members of the Lutheran church. They have a comfortable home and a wide circle of friends in Plainview Township and the vicinity.

**Rev. John N. Bartholome**, pastor of St. Felix Catholic church, Wabasha, was born in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., December 22, 1876, son of Nicholas and Catherine (Jacobs) Bartholome. The parents were natives of Luxemburg but were married in this country. Nicholas Bartholome came to America in 1851, taking a claim of 100 acres of wild land in Chester Township, Wabasha County, which he proceeded to develop. By 1861, having made considerable progress, he returned to Europe for his relations and brought back with him his father and brothers and sisters, besides his wife's relatives—in all a colony of 40 or 50 souls, who settled in the vicinity of Chester. One sister, Margaret, had died in Luxemburg, but among those he brought over were his brother Dominick and his sisters Catherine and Susan. Catherine, who became the wife of J. J. Reiland, is now deceased. Susan became Mrs. Dominick Schmitz. She is also deceased. The marriage of Nicholas Bartholome to Catherine Jacobs took place in this county previous to the advent of the other members of the two families, his wife's parents being residents of Chester Township. Nicholas Bartholome was a man of strong characteristics. He was prominent in civic, church and educational matters in his community, being particularly careful to give his children good educational advantages, and in business matters was very successful. He and his wife had had a large family, including the following children: Peter (first), who died young; Dominick, now living on the old home farm in Chester Township; John N., the direct subject of this sketch; Anna, now Mrs. M. Hart of Mazepa; Elizabeth, who is the wife of F. P. Lippert, of McVile, N. D.; Justine, wife of G. J. Dobner, of Faribault, Minn.; William, of Spokane, Wash.; George, residing in Aneta, N. D.; Nicholas, a twin brother of George, resides at Dickinson, N. D.; Catherine, now Mrs. John Hunneke, of Malta, Mont.; and Peter (second). Peter, the last mentioned, was born in Chester Township, April 1, 1892. He took a classical and philosophical course at Campion College, Prairie du Chien, Wis., subsequently entered St. Paul's Seminary at St. Paul, Minn., and is now a professor in St. Mary's College, at Winona. John N. Bartholome in his boyhood attended the parochial school in Chester Township, and later became a pupil in St. Francis Seminary at Milwaukee, where he took a classical course. From there he went to St. Paul's Seminary at St. Paul, where he graduated in his philosophic and theological course. In the summer of 1902 he took his first charge at Worthington, Minn., where he was stationed for one year. In 1903 he assumed the duties of his second charge, at Fulda, Minn., and remained there until 1919. During that period he increased his parish from 350 to 1,000 members, built a fine \$75,000 church, and a \$60,000 school.



From Fulda he came to St. Felix parish, Wabasha, succeeding the Rt. Rev. Max Wurst, and has since devoted his time and attention to this charge, working earnestly and faithfully, and with gratifying results. He has made a favorable impression on the people of Wabasha, regardless of religious affiliations, and the parish is flourishing under his care.

**August F. Goetz, Jr.**, an enterprising farmer of Plainview Township, was born in this township, November 14, 1884, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Goetz, Sr. He acquired his education in District School No. 61, and was associated with his father on the home farm until 1912. He then moved to his present farm of 160 acres, which he rented for three years, purchasing the property at the end of that time. He has improved it in various ways, having erected a corn crib, garage and machine shed, and put up fences. Besides raising grain and graded stock, he is engaged in truck farming, giving special attention to cabbage and potatoes, all of which he has found profitable. Mr. Goetz was married October 3, 1912, to Linda Drews, who was born December 22, 1891, daughter of Rev. Gust Drews and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Goetz have four children: Lucille D., born September 27, 1913; Eileene R., July 16, 1916; Ruth P., November 18, 1917; and Yvonne L., May 13, 1919. Mr. Goetz and his family are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he is independent.

**Willie D. Hassig**, the proprietor and operator of a profitable farm in Plainview Township, where he stands high as a citizen, was born in Winona County, Minn., August 4, 1873, son of Napoleon and Fianah (Schlott) Hassig. The parents were natives of Stark County, Ohio, they were married in Indiana in 1862, immediately afterward coming to Winona County, Minn., where Napoleon Hassig had taken a claim of 160 acres of wild land the previous year while on a prospecting trip. He and his wife passed through the usual pioneer hardships and experiences, but in time developed a good farm. Mrs. Fianah Hassig died May 31, 1885, and Napoleon Hassig on March 14, 1918, he having survived her nearly 33 years. They had nine children: George F., Alice, Minnie, Mary, Lillie May and Willie D. (twins), Gertrude, Aaron and Edna. Gertrude and Minnie are now deceased. Willie D. Hassig acquired his elementary education in the Honey Hill district school, Winona County. As he grew older he became active and useful on his parents' farm, and subsequently attended the agricultural school at St. Paul for two winters. In 1902 he rented the home farm, which he operated in 1908, in which year he moved to his present location in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, having purchased 80 acres of land in section 25. He has since operated the home farm. Also by additional purchases he has increased the area of his farm to 239 acres, 139 of which are in section 26. He also owns 200 acres of the home farm in Winona County. Since taking possession of the property Mr. Hassig has made some valuable improvements, having erected a good barn, 40 by 74 feet, with full basement and modern equipment, and put up a silo. He follows diversified farming, keeping Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine, and is doing a large and profitable business. On October 14, 1908, he was married to Amelia Carleton, who was born in Plainview Township, October 1, 1878. She was graduated from the Plainview High School in the class of 1899, and in the following year took up teaching, an occupation in which she was engaged for about seven years in the rural schools of Wabasha and Winona counties. In 1905 she was graduated from the School of Agriculture at St. Paul. Mr. and Mrs. Hassig are the parents of four children: Helen A., born August 6, 1909; Deane C., September 17, 1912; Beth M., October 11, 1913, and May E., May 23, 1915. The family are religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Hassig is independent.

**Otto Johnson**, who is identified with the agricultural interests of Plainview Township, was born in Sweden, October 24, 1859. He was educated in his native land and came to the United States in 1880, locating in Minneiska, Wabasha County, Minn. For a while he worked out for others, but about 1886.









Julius Schmidt



he bought a farm of 160 acres in Whitewater Township, Winona County, which he operated for two years. At the end of that time he sold it and went to Watopa Township, where he rented his mother-in-law's farm, which he operated for six years. Then coming to Plainview village, he worked out by the day for seven years, earning only from 75 cents to one dollar a day. Previous to this he had become the owner of a house, which he now traded for machinery, and, having rented a farm from P. Lamprecht, he operated it for two years. At the end of that time he rented the farm on which he now lives, containing 160 acres in section 28, and after operating it under rental for six years, he purchased it. When he took possession the buildings were all poor, but he remodeled the house and in 1916 built a good modern barn, 36 by 72 feet ground dimensions, and he has also built a hen house and machine shed, besides putting up fencing. These improvements have greatly improved the aspect and value of his property. He is successfully carrying on mixed farming, his principal stock being Durham cattle and Chester-White hogs. Enterprising and industrious, he has made good strides on the road to prosperity and is numbered among the prosperous citizens of his township. Mr. Johnson was married, at Winona, Minn., in March, 1887, to Amelia Olson, who was born in Weaver, Wabasha County, Minn. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Mildred, born in Winona County, February 17, 1888, now Mrs. Grover Tock of Rochester, her husband being a physician connected with the Rochester clinic, and who is the mother of one child, Vernon; Arthur V., born in Watopa Township, this county, who is assisting his father on the home farm; Camerd, born in Watopa Township, March 17, 1895; and Genevieve, born in Plainview Township in August, 1897, who is residing at home. The family's religious affiliations are with the Lutheran and M. E. churches. In politics Mr. Johnson is a Republican.

**Julius Schmidt**, who was for more than thirty years one of the leading business men of Wabasha, a public spirited citizen taking an active part in almost every movement connected with the good of the community, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., June 17, 1857, the eldest child of John and Catherine (Schreck) Schmidt. The father was a merchant tailor, who established himself in business in Wabasha in 1864, his wife and three sons, including the subject of this sketch, joining him here in the following year. Both the parents died some years ago. Young Julius, who was only eight years old when he arrived in Wabasha, attended the public schools of the city up to the age of sixteen. He began industrial life in the employ of H. H. Jewell, hardware merchant, under whom he learned the tinner's trade, remaining with him for eight or nine years. Then going to St. Paul, he became traveling salesman for the hardware firm of Strong, Hackett & Co., and was thus occupied until November, 1882, when he returned to Wabasha. Here he entered into partnership with H. B. Jewell, son of his former employer, and, having purchased the interests of the elder Mr. Jewell, they established the firm of Jewell & Schmidt, and operated the concern together until 1893. In that year Julius Schmidt bought his partner's interest and became sole proprietor of the business, which he remained until his death on April 7, 1915. During his highly successful business career Mr. Schmidt was also active in civic affairs, in other enterprises aside from his hardware store, and in several fraternal lodges. For two years he was president of the Minnesota Retail Hardware Association. He served as secretary of the Wabasha Building & Loan Association, was president of the Wabasha Creamery Association, vice-president of the Community Center Association, and a stockholder in the Masonic Association, as well as in the Building, Loan and Creamery Associations. He was a member of Wapahasa Lodge No. 14, A. F. & A. M., and of White Oak Camp, No. 2077, M. W. A., in both of which he held high office, and was active in promoting lodge interests. The welfare of the city occupied a prominent place in his thoughts at all times, and he was ever ready to lend his aid to a worthy cause. His charities were numerous and liberal, both individual and institutional, and won for him a warm place in the



hearts of his fellow citizens. Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage December 8, 1887, to Emma, daughter of Henry and Christina (Frank) Amerland, of Greenfield Township, Wabasha County. She was born November 20, 1858. Mr. Schmidt built a substantial home on Second street, near the court house, where he and his wife began housekeeping, and in which Mrs. Schmidt still resides. After her husband's death, Mrs. Schmidt continued his benefactions, presenting to the city of Wabasha land adjoining their home for a public park, which is now known as the Julius Schmidt Memorial Park. Mr. Schmidt was reared a member of the German Lutheran Church, but that denomination not being represented in Wabasha, he and his wife worshipped with and supported the Episcopal Church of this city.

**Henry Umbreit**, one of the leading farmers of Plainview Township, who is operating 240 acres in section 11, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, April 1, 1875, son of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Umbreit. His parents, who were also farmers, retired and moved to Plainview, where she died May 12, 1920. Henry Umbreit was educated in the district school in his native township. He was early trained to agriculture in all its branches, and remained on the home place until 30 years old. He then rented his present farm in section 11, Plainview Township, which he bought in 1916, after operating it ten or eleven years under rental. Since it came into his possession he has made some valuable improvements, having fenced the entire farm, remodeled and stuccoed the house, and erected a barn 32 by 48 feet, and also a machine-shed and silo. Industrious and enterprising, Mr. Umbreit is making the property pay. He breeds grade Shorthorn cattle for beef and dairy purposes, also Duroc-Jersey hogs, and has gained a recognized place as one of the successful and representative farmers of his township. He has been a member of the school board two years and is now chairman of the Board. On February 22, 1905, he was married to Ella Neiheisel, of Winona, who was born in Beaver Township, Winona County, Minn., March 5, 1880, daughter of John W. and Bertha (Becker) Neiheisel, natives of Wisconsin. He came to Winona, Minn., when a young man and engaged in the manufacture of wagons, which he followed till he retired in 1918. Both are still living in Winona, where they have spent most of their lives. Three children are the issue of this union: Evelyn, born December 11, 1907; George C., born February 22, 1915, and Edward P., born January 2, 1918.

**Rev. Silas Hazlett**, pioneer preacher, and for many years one of the best known and most respected citizens of Lake City, of which at the time of his death, Thursday, November 6, 1919, he was the oldest resident, was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1824, son of William and Ann (Wilson) Hazlett. On the father's side he was of Irish descent, the mother's ancestry being Scotch. Of the family of eleven children, he and his brother John entered the Presbyterian ministry, both attending Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, and the Theological Seminary at Pittsburgh, where they were graduated. Silas Hazlett was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Oxford and Synod of Cincinnati in October, 1850, being then a young man of 26 years. His first charges were at Harmony and College Corner, Ohio. On January 14, 1851, he was married, at Cincinnati, to Eliza Jane Patton. Somewhat less than five years later, on March 1, 1856, with his wife and daughter (now Mrs. J. B. McLean, of Lake City), he left Oxford, Ohio, on a trip to St. Paul, Minn. The journey was made mostly by boat, and on reaching Lake City, April 18, on his way up the river, he landed here with his family, in order to stop over for the Sabbath. There were but twelve persons here at the time, and to them on the following Sunday, April 20, he delivered the first sermon ever preached in Lake City, the services being held in a log shanty owned by Abner Dwelle. Impressed with the natural beauty of the location, and anticipating a prosperous future for the little settlement, Mr. Hazlett determined to remain here, a resolution which he never regretted, and for 65 years thereafter he was one of



the leading figures in the community. He not only preached the first sermon, but also married the first couple, baptized the first child, taught the first public school, and organized the first Sunday school in the history of Lake City. He also performed the wedding ceremony for the first white child born in Wabasha County, namely, F. H. Stauff, of Lake City. The first marriage ceremony was that of George W. Hathaway and Abigail J. Langley, in November, 1856; and it is interesting to note that years after he performed the funeral services of both husband and wife, those of the husband in 1878, and those of the wife in January, 1914, fifty-seven years after he had united her in happy wedlock. The first child he baptized in Lake City was the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Boody, and the first person over whom he performed the burial rites was Mary Doughty, a pioneer of that city. Mr. Hazlett's most active labors were those connected with the Presbyterian ministry. After his initial sermon he held services every Sunday in the second story of a frame building until more suitable accommodations were secured a few months later. It was in the same building that he opened the first public school here, in November, 1856, starting with about thirty pupils. By that time the city had a population of about 300, many new settlers having come in since his arrival seven months before. The lower floor of the building was used as a carpenter shop, and there was no regular stairway, the upper floor being reached by a ladder. On December 31, the same year, the Presbyterian church was organized, with Mr. Hazlett as acting pastor, and B. C. Baldwin, A. V. Sigler and Mrs. Hazlett as members. Its more detailed history may be found on another page of this volume. Mr. Hazlett was pastor of the church for about ten years, and then turned his attention to other fields, and to the organization and erection of two other churches in the county—one in the township of Mt. Pleasant, and the other on Trout brook, in the midst of the "Scotch Settlement" in Glasgow Township. For more than 35 years he tended and cared for the needs of these two country congregations, making his headquarters in Lake City. Both churches are now closed, the organizations having disbanded owing to deaths and removals. Mr. Hazlett's first wife, Eliza Jane, who had accompanied him to this region, died on March 3, 1865, leaving but one child, the daughter previously mentioned. After remaining a widower for four years, Mr. Hazlett married, in May, 1869, Mrs. Sarah Jane Greer, mother of Allan J. Greer, attorney and former state senator, Charles W. Greer, of Minneapolis, and Mary Greer, deceased. Mrs. Hazlett died a few years ago. After 1894 Mr. Hazlett lived in practical retirement at his home in Lake City, though even after he had passed his ninetieth year he officiated frequently at weddings and funerals. He taught a class in the Congregational Sunday school, and was an earnest Bible student. One of the most public spirited men in the city, he took great pride in its growth and prosperity. He lived to enjoy the fruits of his early labors, and to rejoice in the successful work of others. His death at the ripe age of 95 years and six months deprived Lake City of one of its most honored citizens. His life, rich in memories and achievements, was a blessing and benediction to the community in which he lived, and to all those with whom he came into personal contact.

**Frederick Jacob**, who developed a good farm from a tract of wild land in Gillford Township, was born in Germany in 1845, and came to the United States at the age of eleven years. In 1864 he returned to Germany, but remained there only three months, coming back to this country at the end of that time with a party which included Alvina Kuhfuss, who in 1865 became his wife. For one year he and his bride resided with his parents on the John Jacobs farm, after which they began independent domestic life on the William Jacobs farm of 80 acres in West Albany Township, which Frederick Jacob after six or seven years sold to his brother William. He and his family then moved to a tract of 160 acres in Gillford Township, known as the McCarl homestead, which had some improvements, including a small frame house. With



the passing of years other improvements were made until the place was a well tilled farm with suitable residence, barn and other buildings. Like the other settlers of his time, Mr. Jacob at first raised wheat, but in his latter years turned his attention to stock and barley. In 1899 he retired from active work, leased his farm, and moved to Lake City, where he died July 11, 1905, being buried in Oakwood Cemetery. His wife Alvina died December 6, 1915, having survived him ten years or more. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob had five children: Minnie, William F., Lena, Cassie and George F. Minnie, born August 1, 1866, in West Albany Township, is now Mrs. J. M. Danckwardt, of Miami, Florida. William F., born May 28, 1868, in West Albany Township, is a stock buyer at Lake City. Lena, born April 26, 1871, is now Mrs. Henry Lemmer, of Leavenworth, Kans. Cassie, born November 8, 1873, is the wife of John Schmauss, an implement dealer of Lake City. George F., born August 21, 1883, is county treasurer of Wabasha County. Frederick Jacob, the father, was a Democrat in politics, and religiously a Lutheran, being prominent in the church. He was widely known and respected in West Albany, Gillford and Lake City.

**George F. Jacob**, the efficient treasurer of Wabasha County, was born in Gillford Township, this county, October 21, 1883, son of Frederick and Alvina (Kuhfuss) Jacob. He attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and then entered the Lake City schools, continuing his studies there until completing his junior year at high school. Then called home by his father's death, he settled his father's estate. Subsequently he continued farming on the home place, which he still owns, but which he now rents to a tenant. It consists of 240 acres of good land, well cultivated, and equipped with good tools and machinery. The buildings are all good and in good repair. In 1914, Mr. Jacob entered the employ of his brother-in-law, John Schmauss, at Lake City. The next year he became a partner, and successfully continued until January 1, 1918, when he sold out to his partner. While farming, Mr. Jacob became well known throughout the county, and his work at Lake City further increased his friendships. In 1918 he was urged to run for treasurer and after thinking the matter over accepted. He made a successful run, was elected, and took office January 1, 1919, having moved to Wabasha with his family a few days previous. Mr. Jacob's fraternal relations are with the Masons, and he belongs to the Blue Lodge and Commandery at Lake City. He was married, November 25, 1912, to Clara, daughter of Henry and Katherine Tiedemann, of Lake City, and they have two children: Frederick H., born December 13, 1916, and Catherine A., March 2, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob are members of the St. Mark's Episcopal church at Lake City.

**Harry A. Johnson**, an active and successful farmer of section 25, Plainview Township, where he has been located for the last ten years, was born in Winona County, Minnesota, April 1, 1888, son of Fred and Anna (Carlson) Johnson. The parents were natives of Sweden who were married in Minnesota, and subsequently engaged in farming in Winona County until 1897. They then removed to Wabasha County, where they continued in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. The mother died in December, 1914, but the father is still living and is now a resident of Plainview. Harry A. Johnson was educated in the rural schools of Winona, Olmsted and Wabasha Counties. He early acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture, and in 1910 started in for himself, renting the Milton Smith farm in Section 25, Plainview Township. In May, 1919, he bought the property, which comprises 159 acres, and has since remodeled the buildings and made various improvements. He is prosperously engaged in general farming, keeping Holstein-Frisian cattle and Poland-China hogs, and has gained a place among the well-to-do citizens of his township. Mr. Johnson was married, September 12, 1912, to Lydia Schultz, who was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, March 15, 1892, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Kenneth T., born August 14, 1913; and Virgil E., born August 4, 1916. Mr. Johnson and his family are members of the Lutheran church.





GEO. F. JACOB













MR. AND MRS. JOHN BIEVER, SR.



**John E. Schultz**, a retired farmer residing in Plainview after a successful career in his chosen occupation, and who has served efficiently in local office, was born in Germany, November 19, 1856, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schultz. The parents, natives of Germany, came to the United States in 1858, settling first in Milwaukee, whence in the following year they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota. Here they took land in Zumbro Township, where Carl Schultz farmed until his death about 1869. His wife died in 1883. John E. Schultz was educated in the common schools. At the age of 21 he began farming for himself, buying a farm of 160 acres in 1876, in Plainview Township. Later he bought 80 acres on the north, which gave him a farm of 240 acres. In these transactions he was in partnership with his brother, William Schultz, and they continued together till 1878, at which time John gave his brother a quit claim deed of 160 acres, he himself keeping 80 acres. He then went back to the home farm in Zumbro Township, where he stayed with his mother till 1887. In that year he bought 160 acres in section 24, Plainview Township, where he farmed until the fall of 1919. He had sold his original 80 acres to his brother at the time he purchased the above mentioned farm. Having by 1919 acquired a competency, Mr. Schultz retired from active work, and has since enjoyed a well earned leisure as a resident of Plainview village. During his active career he served for some time as a member of the town board, and always took an intelligent and helpful interest in the public affairs of his township. Mr. Schultz was married March 15, 1888, to Hulda Tornow, who was born in Ripon, Wis., January 16, 1870, daughter of Theodore and Amelia Tornow. Her parents were born in Germany, where they were married April 9, 1869, immediately before embarking on board a vessel for America, their trip to this country being their wedding journey. From Ripon, Wis., where they resided a short time, they came to Minnesota in 1870, settling in Olmsted County, where Mr. Tornow engaged in carpenter work. Later he and his wife resided a few years in Wabasha County, and then for two years in Winona County. He died December 17, 1912. His wife is now living in Rochester, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. John E. Schultz have been the parents of eight children: Irene, born February 4, 1889; Lydia, March 15, 1892; Eleanor, March 31, 1893; Frances, January 9, 1897; Esther, November 7, 1901; Roy, February 28, 1890; George, March 1, 1891, and Mary, November 8, 1894. The three last mentioned are now deceased, each having died in early infancy, Roy on July 30, 1890; George, April 24, 1891, and Mary December 12, 1894. Lydia is the wife of Harry A. Johnson, of Plainview Township, and has two children, Kenneth and Virgil. Eleanor, who married George Huggard, who is now deceased and by whom she has two daughters, Dorothy and Virginia. She married secondly Gust Gleasmer and resides in Plainview. Frances, who resides at home, is bookkeeper in the Plainview State Bank. Esther is also residing at home. Mr. Schultz and his family are members of the Lutheran church. He is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M. One of the self-made men of Wabasha County, he is well known and respected, having a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

**John Biever, Sr.**, one of the pioneer settlers of Pepin Township, was born in Luxemburg, April 29, 1837. He attended common school to the age of 14, served in the German army three years, and was industrially associated with his father, who was a granite worker. In 1858 he came to the United States and for some time was a common laborer in Dubuque, Ia. From there he went to Menominee, Wis., where he worked as a farm hand until he enlisted as a substitute for service in the Civil War, and was a soldier for 14 months. After his return from the army he came to Wabasha County and for a time worked here as a farm hand. At last he resolved to start in for himself and at the same time to take a life partner, and accordingly he was married at St. Felix church, Wabasha, by Bishop Trobec, to Mary Jacobs, like himself a native of Germany, and they began housekeeping on a purchased tract of 80 acres of wild land in



section 22, Pepin Township. There was a small frame house of two rooms and some straw sheds for cattle, and the situation was elevated, overlooking Read's Landing. With such surroundings and no money Mr. and Mrs. Biever began the battle of life together, both grubbing and clearing the land, and she, a strong woman, doing her full part. More land was bought in time until they owned 400 acres and had a flourishing farm with good buildings. Often they drove in a lumber wagon, with a board seat, or went on foot, to Read's Landing or Wabasha, to church or for trade. In the early days they had to look out for rattlesnakes, and the Indians were quite as numerous, though not hostile. To Mr. and Mrs. Biever five children were born: Mary, October 15, 1867, who now resides with her mother; John C., residing in Pepin Township; Anna, who married Matt Marks of Mazeppa and is now deceased; Nicholas, residing at home; and William, now a farmer in Pepin Township. Mr. Biever died September 24, 1905, after a long life of activity crowned with worldly success. He was a man of quiet disposition, a good husband and father, and held in esteem by his fellow citizens. In politics he was a Democrat, and he and his family members of the Catholic church, and of St. Felix parish. Mrs. Biever, who was born in Luxemburg in August, 1846, is still living, strong and well at the age of 74 years.

**William Biever**, an enterprising and prosperous farmer of section 22, Pepin Township, was born in this section and township March 11, 1886, son of John and Mary (Jacobs) Biever. He has always remained on the home farm, which he helped his parents to develop, and as a boy he acquired his education in the district school and at Read's Landing. He leased the farm in 1910, and is engaged in general agriculture, raising both grain and stock with profitable results. He has a good operating equipment and his industry, thrift and good judgment have placed him among the successful men of his township, where he also stands high as a citizen. Mr. Biever was married December 14, 1910, to Hazel Dorse, daughter of Marion and Lilly (Davidson) Dorse, of Read's Landing, this county, which was her birthplace, her father being an employe of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, in the bridge building department. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Biever: Mabel, December 23, 1911; Lucille, August 9, 1918; and Hazel, August 5, 1920. The family are members of the Catholic church, attending St. Felix church at Wabasha.

**Horatio Gates Richardson**, a notable pioneer of Wabasha County, farmer and merchant, and one who took a leading part in the upbuilding and development of Elgin village, was born in Topsham, Orange County, Vermont, September 13, 1836. He was the son of Thomas Richardson and Ruth J. Smith, whose ancestry has been traced back to Captain John Smith who fought in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775, during the Revolutionary War. After residing in his native town until he was twenty-two years of age, he came out west in 1858 to Wisconsin, where he taught school for one winter, coming to Minnesota the following spring. In the fall he went back to Vermont, where on October 26, 1859, he married Julia Anna Bowen of West Topsham, Vermont. Julia Anna Bowen was the daughter of William Bowen and Roxanna Pamela Nye, whose ancestry has been traced back through the centuries showing that she was a descendant of David Nye who fought in the battle of Lexington at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War April 19, 1775, and still farther back into the ninth century in Denmark. Early in November Mr. Richardson brought his wife to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and in company with two other brothers; they occupied a little log house on what is now known as the J. Q. Richardson place, during the first winter. In the spring they moved over on to the land which became their homestead. Here they lived for thirty years on a farm of three hundred and eighty acres, one of the most beautiful farms in southern Minnesota. Eight children were born to them: Addie, the second child, died in infancy during an epidemic of diphtheria about 1863; the remaining seven children—Pamelia Ruth, Sylvia Emma, George Washington, Julia Elnora, Flora





MR. AND MRS. H. G. RICHARDSON







May, Ada Geneva and Iva Myrtle were brought up on the farm and are still living. The six daughters became teachers, a profession which they inherited from their parents who were both teachers before they were married. The only son, George, became associated with his father in mercantile business. Mrs. Richardson was a most wonderful woman, and her influence was felt throughout the village. When her oldest sister died leaving seven children orphans she took three of those children into her home and cared for them as her own until they were able to earn for themselves. A testimony which is worth repeating was that of the late Mr. C. A. Morey, an attorney of Winona, Minnesota, who when he learned that she was the teacher who had taught him his "A B C's" back in Vermont, described her as a most beautiful woman—blue eyes, clear, fair skin, brown, wavy, auburn hair, beautiful color—a perfect picture of womanhood. About ten years after locating on his farm one mile northeast of the village of Elgin, Mr. Richardson bought out the merchant, Robert Jenness, in Elgin, and engaged in mercantile business, at the same time keeping up his interests in the home farm. Later he formed a partnership with his brother, Charles S., under the firm name of H. G. Richardson & Co. and the two brothers were associated together for thirty years, or until Horatio's death. The brothers carried on a large business of farming and general merchandise. In 1878 they established a lumber business and with another brother, Joseph, they built an elevator and engaged in grain buying. During all these years the two brothers were acquiring large tracts of land which at the time of Horatio's death amounted to about 2,000 acres. In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. Richardson moved from the farm into town, where they resided the remainder of their lives. In 1889 Mr. Richardson's only son, George, married Miss Mina E. Waste, daughter of Dr. J. P. Waste of Plainview, Minnesota. They located in Elgin and George became prominently identified with the store business. For a number of years subsequently George had the management of the store, but when his father passed away he decided to purchase a farm at Clark, South Dakota, where he lived till December, 1919. He sold his farm in South Dakota and purchased a new farm at Clear Lake, Minnesota, where he is now engaged in farming. One daughter, Helen Richardson Vogt, of Wolfe Point, Montana, and two sons, Horatio Gates and Marvin Waste Richardson are still living. Mr. Richardson's eldest daughter, Pamela Ruth, married John W. Bryant who became a very prominent citizen in Elgin, having engaged in grain buying for a number of years. He sold his elevator and organized the First State Bank of Elgin, of which he was president and cashier. About 1905 Mr. Bryant sold his bank and moved to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he became president of a wholesale grocery under the name of Bryant-Sisson Co. Mr. Bryant passed away in 1913, leaving his wife, and daughter, Mabel Bryant Herron, and his son, Harold John Bryant. Mrs. Pamela Bryant, together with her daughter and son, have recently moved to West Point, Miss., where they have purchased a farm of some two hundred acres. The third daughter, Sylvia, married Richard L. Wood, a farmer who lived about two miles east of the village. They have recently sold their farm and are now residing in the old home on Main street. Five children were born to them: Clayton, Gladys, Bernice, Florence and Mildred. Another daughter, Ada, married Charles P. Goodwin of Marshall, Minn., where they lived for about three years. At that time Mr. Goodwin sold out his furniture business and moved to Elmdale, Montana, where he located on a ranch, devoting his time to stock raising. Two children: Fanchon Ruth and Julia Marie are still living. Iva M. married Paul H. Bryant, who now resides in Twin Falls, Idaho. Two children were born to them: Lucile Adeline and Frances Julia. Flora May Richardson and Julia Elnora Richardson were successful teachers for a number of years, but who now are successful Osteopathic physicians and surgeons located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the Leamington Hotel. Horatio Gates Richardson was called to his final rest on Wednesday morning, October 11, 1899, after an illness of but nine days, which was ushered in by



an attack of apoplexy. His end was painless as he lay in a comatose condition from the time of his seizure until his death. He was a man universally loved and mourned, a good husband and father, quiet and unobtrusive in his manner, genial and obliging, with a kind word for everyone. His record as a business man was one of unquestionable integrity. He held many offices of trust and responsibility, serving on the board of supervisors of Elgin township, also as town treasurer for twelve years, as postmaster, as president of the board of education for several years and as a member of the village council. Above all, he probably did more than any other one man in advancing the interests and shaping the destiny of Elgin village. In the words of Le Baron Russell Briggs of Harvard University, "He was a man who was 'always there.'"

**Henry Boatman**, a retired farmer residing in Lake City, was a pioneer of Minnesota and an early settler in Wabasha County, taking part in the development of its agricultural resources. He was born in Germany, August 9, 1845, son of Frederick and Lena Boatman. At the age of nine years, in 1854, he came with his parents to the United States, the family locating first at Ottawa, Ill. There Mrs. Lena Boatman died, and her husband, Frederick, placed his son, Henry, in the care of an American family, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus Crook, and came to Minnesota, homesteading 160 acres of land in Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County. Henry remained with the Crooks until the spring of 1865, when he enlisted in the United States' service and was sent to Memphis, Tenn., where he was stationed at the time President Lincoln was assassinated. He was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., in September, 1865, and returned to Ottawa, where he remained until the spring of 1867. He then came to Goodhue County, Minnesota, to visit his father, whom he had not seen for eleven years, and for whom he worked two years, subsequently returning to Ottawa, Ill., where he found a wife in the person of Nellie Elizabeth Mosher, daughter of Merwin and Sophronia Mosher, their marriage being celebrated July 22, 1871. In the fall of 1873 he and his wife located in Stillwater, Minn., where they resided for two years. Then in the fall of 1875 Mr. Boatman bought 80 acres of improved land in section 3, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County. The only building on the land was a small shanty, in which Mr. and Mrs. Boatman lived for two or three years. In 1878 he bought a second tract of 80 acres adjoining on the west; and in 1881 a third tract of the same size, thus coming into possession of a farm of 240 acres. From the beginning he had been working hard in improving the place, and about 1880 built a substantial two-story, ten-room frame house. He also erected a barn and other necessary buildings, and beautified his house, planting his front yard with maple trees, carrying the young trees on his back from Hay Creek, a distance of nine miles, his farm being located four and a half miles west of Lake City. Through industry and economy he conquered success, and having acquired a competence, in 1912 he retired to Lake City, where he bought a nice residence, since occupied by himself and wife and daughter Ella May. On his retirement he leased his farm to his son, Merwin, who in 1918 bought the 120-acre tract on which the buildings stand, and is operating the entire 240 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Boatman have had five children: Wesley, of section 2, Mt. Pleasant Township; who was born May 9, 1874; Ella May, born March 19, 1876; Ida S., born July 30, 1879, now Mrs. John Kennedy of Lake City; Merwin Howard, born April 18, 1886; Ray Mosher, born July 23, 1889, a farmer in West Florence Township, Goodhue County; and two children, Carrie and Edwin, who died in childhood. Mr. Boatman and wife are prominent members of the M. E. church at Lake City. Politically he is a Democrat and for a number of years was a member of the school board.

**Wesley H. Boatman**, who is prosperously engaged in agriculture in section 2, Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County, May 9, 1874, son of Henry and Nellie (Mosher) Boatman. He was only four or five years old when he accompanied his parents to section 2, Wabasha County,









EMIL A. BECKER



and here he subsequently attended the district school up to the age of 14 years. His industrial activities were expended on the home farm, which he helped his father to improve, and they were associated together until 1903. October 10, that year, Mr. Boatman married Lillian Elizabeth Thimijon, daughter of Charles and Minnie Thimijon, of Mt. Pleasant Township, her parents being early immigrants from Germany. Mr. Boatman and wife already had a home prepared, he having bought, in the fall of 1902, the farm on which he and his family are now living. This was known as the Granville Clark farm, and contained 160 acres, of which 125 were under the plow. It is now one of the best farms of its size in the township, the soil being good and highly cultivated. The house, which Mr. Boatman has improved, is a six-room frame structure, gas-lighted. He has also improved the other buildings, has a good operating equipment, and owns a large touring car. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory help on reasonable terms, he operates but one-half of his farm, renting out the balance, but in spite of this limited activity, is doing a satisfactory business. He is a Democrat in politics, and he and his wife attend the M. E. church at Lake City.

**Ole H. Olson**, a popular business man of Hammond, who has also rendered good service as a public official, was born in Norway in 1860, son of Hover and Anna (Masel) Olson. His parents came to the United States in the year of his birth, settling in Springfield, Ill., where the father found miscellaneous employment. After the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in an Illinois regiment, with which he served about two years. On his return to his home in Springfield, he traded the city property he owned there for a farm in Jackson County, Wisconsin, to which locality the family removed. Later they came from there to Minnesota, locating in the town of Zumbro, Wabasha County. There were three children in the family, all sons. One died at the age of four years, the two survivors being George, who is a resident of Oronoco, Olmsted County, and Ole H. The latter was educated in the district schools of Wisconsin and Wabasha County, Minnesota, in Zumbro Township attending school No. 49. He was brought up to farm pursuits and began an independent career by renting a farm in Zumbro Township. In 1894 he bought the home farm of his wife's father in Zumbro Township, four miles southwest of Hammond, where he successfully carried on general agriculture until 1916. He then rented the farm to a tenant and moved to Hammond village, where he now has charge of the Standard Oil station. His public service has been varied. He was a member of the Zumbro Town Board 13 years, being chairman for nine years; was township treasurer one year, and trustee of the village board two years. For twenty years he has belonged to the fraternal order of Woodmen. Mr. Olson was married in August, 1883, at Hammond, Minn., to Dora A. York, daughter of Edward M. and Mary (Sinclair) York, her parents being natives of Maine and pioneer settlers of Wabasha County, Minnesota. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Olson, one of whom, Iva Belle, died in 1885. The other is a son, Cleve, now living on the old home farm, who married Mary Paine, of Wabasha, and has a son named James H.

**Emil A. Becker**, one of the leading business men of Elgin, proprietor of an up-to-date furniture store, undertaker and music dealer, was born at Charles City, Iowa, June 12, 1882, son of Herman and Anna (Lippe) Becker. He acquired his education in the public schools of Charles City and of Elgin, Minn., to which latter place he came with his parents when 12 years old. At the age of 15 he began his business career as clerk in a store in Elgin, and was thus occupied until 1909. He then went to Appleton, Minn., where he became sales manager in the furniture and undertaking department of the Leader Department Store, holding that position subsequently for five years. With the experience thus gained, he returned in 1914 to Elgin and purchased the furniture and undertaking business of his father, which he has since conducted with a gratifying measure of success, his stock being large and complete. He is also a



partner with his brother, Arthur E., in the Becker Bros. Music Co., having stores at Elgin and Plainview, he attending to the Elgin branch of the business while his brother looks after that at Plainview. In 1908 he took a course of embalming at the Johnston School of Embalming in Philadelphia. One of the progressive men of the village, he is interested in whatever concerns its prosperity and advancement and is regarded as a reliable and whole-souled citizen. His fraternal society affiliations are with the Masons, Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Brotherhood of America. Mr. Becker was married June 20, 1906, to Myrtle Connery, who was born in North Dakota, November 20, 1887, daughter of Thomas and Emma (Behrns) Connery. Two children have blessed their union: Arthur, born June 3, 1907, and Lawrence, born February 19, 1918.

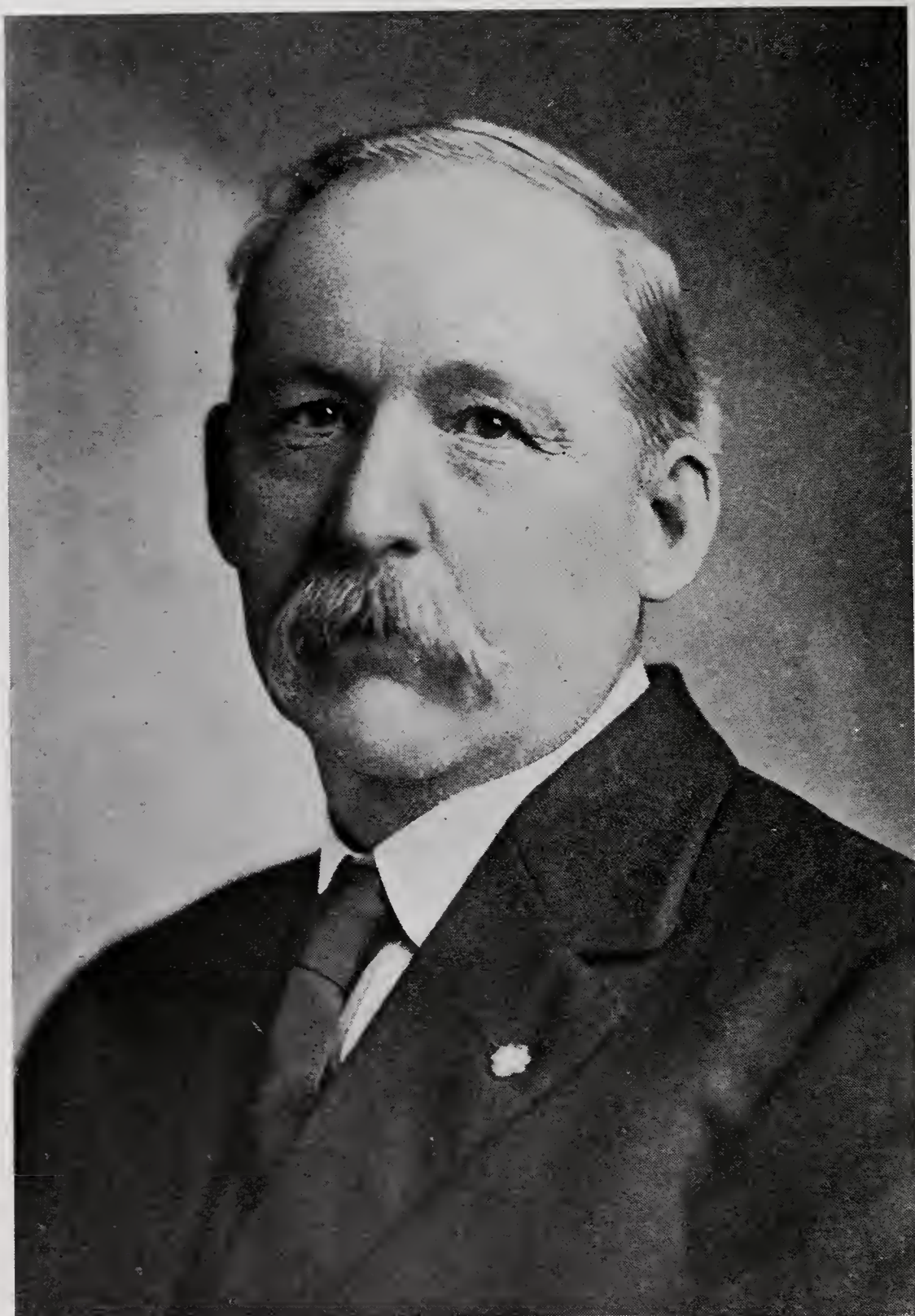
**Nicholas Schouweiler**, one of the leading business men of Hammond, engaged in the sale of lumber and building material, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, in 1861, son of John and Anna (Mumper) Schouweiler. The parents were from Germany, coming to the United States about 1860, and taking a homestead of 160 acres in Highland Township, this county, where they resided for the rest of their lives. The father died about 1882 and the mother on July 28, 1918. There were ten children in the family, one of whom died in infancy. The others were Nicholas, John, George, Bartel, Michael, Frank, Anthony, Mary and Katharine. Michael, Frank, Anthony and Katharine are now deceased. Mary is the wife of Nick Brucher. George lives in Highland Township. Bartel is on the home farm in the same township. John resides on a farm in Glasgow Township. Nicholas Schouweiler was reared on his parents' farm, and was educated in the district school and the Wabasha high school, in which latter he was a pupil for one winter. Besides following the ordinary routine of farming, for some time he operated a threshing-machine. In 1888 he came to Hammond and engaged in the hardware business. Later he became a grain buyer, which occupation he followed for twelve years. Then in 1902 he opened a lumber yard in Hammond, of which he is still the proprietor, also handling coal, brick, lime, cement and all kinds of building material. He is also president of the Hammond State Bank, in which he is a stockholder. He has taken a helpful part in local affairs, having formerly served for three years as village clerk, then three years as a member of the village board of trustees, also as a member of the school board and as president of the village, showing efficiency and devotion to the public interests. His reputation as a citizen is among the best, and his success as a business man has proved him an asset to the village. Mr. Schouweiler was married, June 24, 1890, in Highland Township, to Eva Peters, daughter of Adam and Johanna (Leonard) Peters. Her parents, natives of Prussia, arrived in Wabasha County in 1855, among the pioneer settlers of the county, having previously resided for a short time in Michigan and then in Iowa. On coming to Wabasha County, they homesteaded a farm in Glasgow Township, which is now owned by their son John. They had eleven children, of whom seven are now living, namely, Garrett, Katherine, Margaret, Eva, Peter J., Theodore and John. Mr. and Mrs. Schouweiler are the parents of three children: Laura A., Veronica J., and Arthur P. Laura and Veronica are teaching school, the former in Hammond and the latter in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Arthur P. is attending school in Minneapolis.

**Nicholas Brucher**, a pioneer merchant of Hammond, where he is still carrying on business, was born in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, January 16, 1851, son of John and Susan (Ley) Brucher. The parents were farmers who spent their lives in their native land, the mother dying in 1869 and the father in 1881. Their family numbered ten children, only three of whom are now living, namely: Mary, still residing in Luxemburg; Elizabeth, a resident of Cashton, Wis., and Nicholas. The others were: John, who died in Kellogg, Minn., in 1916; John (second), who died in Luxemburg; Peter, who died in









W. P. HOLTON



Paris; Catherine, who died in the United States in 1876; Peter (second), who died in Kansas in 1895; Nicholas (first), who died in Kellogg, Minn., in 1915; and Margaret, who died when young. John, the first son thus named, was a pioneer of Wabasha County, coming here in 1855. He was for many years engaged in farming, finally retiring to Kellogg, where he died, as above mentioned. Nicholas Brucher in his boyhood attended school in his native land. He subsequently learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed until he engaged in the manufacture of moulding and veneering with his brother, who purchased the business from an uncle. For three years he was thus occupied, after which for several years he again worked at his trade, spending one year in London. In 1870-71 he was in Paris during the siege, and saw and endured many hardships. In 1877 he emigrated to the United States, first locating at Kellogg, Wabasha County, Minn., where he engaged in carpenter work. He came to Hammond in 1879, and in the spring of the following year opened a general store which was practically the first store started here, and since then he has continued in mercantile business and prospered, being known far and wide as a reliable merchant, keeping a good stock and honest in his dealings. He was the first president of the village, an office in which he served for a number of years, and he also served as recorder and a member of the school board. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Brucher was married in 1883, in the town of Highland, Wabasha County, to Mary A. Schouweiler, daughter of John and Anna (Mumper) Schouweiler, who came to this country from Luxemburg about 1860, settling in Highland Township, this county, where they engaged in farming. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schouweiler are now deceased, and so also are five of their ten children. The others, Nicholas, George, Bartel, John and Mary, are all residing in Wabasha County. Mr. and Mrs. Brucher are the parents of eight children: Anna, wife of A. P. Hilger, of Mazeppa; Nicholas Peter, who resides in Hammond; Edward John, also of Hammond; Lucille, wife of Norton L. Beyer, of Hammond; George H., who is a traveling salesman; Walter M., who is a student in the high school at St. Paul; Charles, attending school in Hammond; and Rosella, who is residing at home.

**William Putnam Holton**, who for more than thirty years was one of the leading business men of Elgin, proprietor of a large and well equipped drug store, and also handling paints, wall paper and other accessories, was born at Orfordville, Rock County, Wis., February 12, 1854, son of Samuel James and Euphemia Ellen Addie Holton. The father was a native of Ellington, Tolland County, Conn., and the mother of Ireland. William P., who was one of a large family of thirteen children, at the age of seven years accompanied the family to Menomonie, Dunn County, Wis., and attended school there until the spring of 1868. In the following spring, the family having removed to Missouri, he went with his mother to Marysville, Nodaway County, that state. But at the end of one season, not liking Missouri, the family came north, making the trip by team from Marysville to the Thomas Richardson place in Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn., where they arrived October 12, 1869. The following year the family settled on the farm in Viola Township, southwest of Elgin, which has since been known as the Holton farm, and for two years William worked on farms in the neighborhood. During the winter of 1871 he attended a telegrapher's school at Oberlin, Ohio. On returning home he took means to improve his general education by attending country school and Niles' Select School at Rochester. With this additional mental equipment, he later began teaching, following that occupation in the Woolley district, Viola Township, in 1880; in the Kincaid district in 1881; in Oronoco in 1881-82, and in the Cora district, Viola Township, in 1883-84. In the summer of 1884 he went to Minneapolis, where for a short time he was engaged in the commission business with his brother Albert, but in December, that year, he came to Wabasha County and went to work in the drug store of Dr. W. T. Adams at Elgin. In



1888 Mr. Holton bought the store of Dr. Adams, and conducted it with marked success, having built up a large and profitable trade. In 1895 he with Dr. Adams, built the present brick store block for a store and doctors' offices, and he owned the entire building, including the stores and offices. From 1905 to 1914 he served as postmaster of Elgin, and for ten or fifteen years he was secretary of the school board. For twenty years he was treasurer of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a member. A Free Mason of high degree, he belonged to the Winona Consistory, Scottish Rite. Mr. Holton was married, July 17, 1881, to Frances F. Dickerman, and he and his wife are the parents of four children: Vincent, Ava, Fred and Ezra. Mr. Holton died April 27, 1920.

**Vincent Holton**, editor and proprietor of the Elgin Monitor, was born in Viola Township, Olmsted County, June 11, 1882, son of William P. and Frances F. (Dickerman) Holton. He acquired his primary education in the public school of Elgin, was graduated from the Elgin high school in the class of 1901, and was subsequently a student for one year in the pharmaceutical department of Minnesota State University. Then returning to Elgin, he entered his father's drug store. In 1905 he became acting postmaster under his father, and so continued until 1914, when he was appointed postmaster by President Taft, and so served until 1916. In 1905 Mr. Holton purchased the Elgin Monitor, of which he has since been sole owner and editor. For the past twelve years he has been village recorder and is still serving in that office. He is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge at Elgin, the Winona Consistory, Scottish Rite, and of Osman Temple of the Mystic Shrine, St. Paul. Mr. Holton was married, July 26, 1905, to Lenore Resler, who was born in Elgin, Minn. He and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church and are popular members of Elgin society.

**Fred A. Holton**, druggist, and a well known and popular resident of Elgin, was born in this village, September 19, 1886, son of William P. and Frances F. (Dickerman) Holton. He was educated in the Elgin public and high schools, graduating from the latter in the class of 1905. He at once entered his father's drug store in Elgin, where he has since continued employed, being now the assistant pharmacist. In the winter of 1909 he took a course at the Drews School of Pharmacy, Minneapolis. He is a member of the Elgin board of education, and is a Mason, belonging to Winona Consistory, Scottish Rite, and Osman Temple, M. S., at St. Paul. He was married June 23, 1909, to Grace Resler, who was born in Elgin, Minn., Nov. 23, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Holton have one child, Robert Vincent, who was born December 4, 1915. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

**William Dennison Woodward**, a pioneer of Wabasha County, and in his day one of its best known and most prominent citizens, was born in Swanza, New Hampshire, in 1826. He grew up on a farm and received a limited education. Seeking his fortune in the Northwest, he made his way to Wisconsin, and at Trenton, that state, was married in the spring of 1854 to Martha, daughter of David and Abigail (Marsh) Houghton, all of Vermont birth. In the same year he came overland with an ox team from Beaver Dam to Olmsted County, Minn., and settled in Quincy Township. His eldest son, William Henry, was the first white child born in that township. In company with another man, Mr. Woodward erected a saw mill on the Whitewater, but in 1856 he sold out his interests and settled in section 33, Elgin Township, Wabasha County, on a 240-acre tract of wild prairie land. His first residence on the land was a small shanty, but he later built a very good house, making all the shingles himself, and in the course of time he acquired an estate of 480 acres, and was a successful farmer. He was a member of the Masonic order, and politically a Republican. His death took place in April, 1870. He left five children: William Henry, now retired and living in Elgin village; David Orlo and Everett E., residents of the state of Washington; Albert Elvin, a druggist in Aberdeen, S. D.; and Mary



Ellen, who married S. A. Foster and died in 1883. In the fall of 1884 Mrs. Martha Woodward, widow of the subject of this sketch, became the wife of Leonard Knapp, with whom she resided in Dover Township, Olmsted County. She died in September, 1911.

**William Henry Woodward**, a well known and popular resident of the village of Elgin, where he is now living retired, is a man who owes his prosperity to Wabasha County's chief industry, agriculture, in which during his active years he was an adept, having been trained in the pioneer school, and done credit to his training. He was born in Quincy, Olmsted County, Minnesota, August 29, 1855, son of William D. and Martha (Houghton) Woodward, and as a babe accompanied his parents to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, in the following year. On their farm in section 33 he received his initiation into the various branches of the farming business, attending district school in his boyhood days, and generally being provided with more work than play. As he grew older he became of great assistance to his parents, and in 1880 took charge of the home farm. Later he bought the interests of the heirs and became sole owner. As such he made many valuable improvements on it, erecting a barn, 36 by 80 feet, with full basement, a machine-shed, engine-house and tank-house, and conducting a profitable business as general farmer until 1914, when he retired. He now rents the farm to a tenant and is enjoying a life of leisure and comfort, the reward of his former days of industry. As a citizen interested in local affairs, he rendered service for some time as a member of the school board. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Woodward was married November 3, 1880, to Sylvia Moody, who was born in Vermont, January 30, 1855, daughter of Nathaniel and Lydya (Dickerman) Moody, who also were natives of that state. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Woodward, namely: Iva, December 13, 1881; Clayton, May 2, 1883; Winnifred, July 26, 1885; Ray, July 11, 1887; Madge, August 6, 1889; Maud, August 3, 1893, and Edith, August 8, 1895. Iva, who is now the wife of Guy Evans, and resides on a farm in Olmsted County, has two children, Mildred and Gertrude. Clayton, who resides at home. Winnifred is the wife of John Donaldson and has two children, Marion and Glenn. Ray married Lena Dubrenz and has three children, William, Harold and Frances. He resides on the home farm. Madge, a graduate of the Elgin high school, is a teacher in Montana. Maud, who is the wife of T. U. McMullen, an auto expert of Warner, N. D., has one child, James. Edith, a graduate of the Elgin high school, like her sister Madge, is teaching in Montana.

**Charles Tradup**, a well known and respected citizen of the village of Elgin, where he is now engaged in light occupation, having retired from the more strenuous business of general farming, was born in Osage, Iowa, April 22, 1858, son of Louis and Anna (Weinrebe) Tradup. The parents were natives of Schleswig, Germany, the father born February 6, 1831. Married in their native province, they came to the United States in 1855, locating at once in Osage, Iowa, where Louis Tradup followed his trade of cabinet maker and carpenter. In 1860 they came to Olmsted County, Minn., taking a farm of 160 acres near Potsdam, in Farmington Township, and there they spent the rest of their lives, Louis Tradup dying April 12, 1913. Theirs was the life of typical pioneers. Their farm, when they first took possession of it, was all wild prairie land, and it took many years of hard work to develop it into the valuable piece of property it is today, with a fine residence and an ample set of good buildings. It is now owned and occupied by their son, Henry. All their children were sons, namely: August, John, Charles, Mathias and Henry; all but John are now living.

Charles Tradup was educated in the common schools of Farmington Township, Olmsted County, and remained on the home farm until he was 23 years old. In 1880 he bought a farm of 80 acres in section 9, Elgin Township, where he farmed until 1900. Then he sold the place and bought an improved farm of



278 acres in sections 28 and 33, in the same township. Though improved, the place was much run down, the buildings especially being poor. Some of them he rebuilt, besides erecting others, and continued his operations in this direction until he had a fine set, including a good modern residence. He also fenced almost the entire farm with woven-wire fencing and made it one of the best improved and equipped farms in the township. There he followed general agriculture for a number of years, also dealing largely in cattle, which he bought, fed and shipped to market, usually about three or four carloads a year. These enterprises proved profitable, and in 1913 he retired from general farming, renting the place to his son-in-law, Herman Uecker. In 1916 Mr. Tradup built his present residence in Elgin, which is thoroughly modern in every particular, with an inside finish of hardwood, and which is heated by the vapor system. It is now one of the most artistic and comfortable homes in the village. Mr. Tradup is still engaged in stock buying, and also in the raising of produce. He is a stockholder of the First State Bank, and a member of the Elgin Co-operative Creamery Association. While residing on his farm he took an active part in public affairs, serving for some time on both the town and school boards. On December 25, 1881, Mr. Tradup was united in marriage with Louise Quentin, who was born in Boston, Mass., June 28, 1865, daughter of Louis and Katherine (Lierman) Quentin. Her parents, who were married in Boston, came west about 1870, locating first at St. Paul, and later at Potsdam, Olmsted County, Minn., where Mr. Quentin followed his trade of harness-maker. He is now dead, but his widow still resides in Potsdam. Their children were Louis (first), now deceased, Louisa, Charles, Della and Louis (second). To Mr. and Mrs. Tradup ten children have been born: Edward, January 1, 1883; Leanora, August 18, 1884; Ruby, May 20, 1886; Lilly, February 19, 1889; Alma, April 21, 1891; Verna, July 11, 1895; Adelaide, June 20, 1897; Carlton, March 31, 1904; Quentin, October 6, 1908; and Harold, July 14, 1910. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

**John C. Kettner**, cashier of the Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Elgin, was born in Nicollet County, Minnesota, September 11, 1877, son of William and Wilhelmina (Stolt) Kettner. The parents were natives of Germany who came to America when young and single, and were married in Illinois. In 1857 they came to Minnesota and located in Nicollet County on a farm of which but little had been broken. There was work for a stout-hearted pioneer, and William Kettner proved himself the man for the occasion. The task took time, but he developed the land, erected buildings, enlarged the farm to an area of 1,090 acres, and became one of the prosperous and representative farmers of that community. There he died on June 9, 1908, but his wife, who survived him, is still residing at the old home. Of their ten children, five died in infancy, the survivors being: Christian, now of Truman, Minn.; Louis W., living on the home farm with his mother; Fred A., a resident of Truman; Mary, now Mrs. E. A. Zimmerman, of Morgan, Minn.; and John C., of Elgin. The last mentioned, the subject of this sketch, acquired his literary education in the public schools, and subsequently completed a commercial and banking course in the Gem City Business College at Quincy, Ill. Then returning to Nicollet County, and became a candidate for the office of register of deeds of Nicollet County. This was in 1900, and being elected, he served subsequently through re-election for ten years. He was then elected justice of the peace at St. Peter, which office he held for four years. During this last period he was also assistant county surveyor for two seasons, and for a year and a half deputy county treasurer. In the fall of 1914 he came to Elgin to accept the position of cashier with the Farmers & Merchants State Bank, and as such he has since continued, having proved himself efficient both with the bank management and the general public. His ability as a man of affairs has been recognized by his fellow citizens, and in 1917 he was appointed on the board of education to fill the unexpired term of Dr. W. F. Bleifuss, and at the next election of



the board he was duly elected to the same position, which he has since continued to fill. In 1917 Mr. Kettner was also elected village treasurer, to which office he was re-elected in 1918, 1919 and 1920, being now its incumbent. His public service has given general satisfaction, and he has taken his natural place as one of the leaders in the community. On June 21, 1904, Mr. Kettner was married at St. Peter, Minn., to Augusta Olson, who was born September 7, 1876. He and his wife have one child, Rosalie Estelle, who was born July 5, 1906, and is now a student in the public schools. The family are members of the Lutheran church, and in politics Mr. Kettner is a Republican.

**Herman C. Schroeder**, dealer in automobiles, and proprietor of a garage and repair shop in Elgin village, was born on a farm in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, February 13, 1886, son of Henry and Louise (Scheer) Schroeder. The father, Henry Schroeder, was a pioneer of the township and county, settling here when the land was covered with timber, which he cleared from his farm, making improvements, and residing on his property until his death in 1905. His wife died in 1904. They had a family of eight children, all of whom are now deceased but two, Herman C. and Alice. The latter is the wife of Otto Streich, a farmer of Elgin Township. Herman C. Schroeder attended district school until arriving at the age of 13 years, after which he continued his studies in the Elgin common school and high school. After residing on the home farm until reaching the age of 27 years, he moved to the village of Elgin, and for two years drove a car for Dr. Hugh Slocum. Then bought a barn and established a garage, thus beginning an independent business career. In 1919 he erected a tile and brick fireproof garage, 50 by 84 feet, where he conducts a repair shop, and also handles the Hudson and Essex cars and accessories. In addition to this occupation he also operates the village water and power plant. Mr. Schroeder was married in 1907 at Hammond, Minn., to Emma Schalinske, of that place, daughter of Mitchell and Pauline Schalinske. Her mother died in 1918, and her father now resides in Farmington with a daughter. Of their seven children, six are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder are the parents of two children: Della, born in September, 1908, and Lavern, born in June, 1911, both of whom are attending school. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Evangelical Association at Farmington.

**Clyde S. Richardson**, manager of the Richardson Elevator Co., Inc., of Elgin, was born in Elgin Village, December 27, 1876. He acquired his education in the public and high schools of Elgin, and then began business life in the Richardson Bros.' elevator here, and has since been connected with the concern, becoming vice president and manager of the incorporation. Through long experience he is thoroughly familiar with all its details, and has proved himself as competent as one of the chief officials of this large and important concern as he did when occupying a subordinate position. The First National Bank of Elgin also numbers him among its stockholders. As a good citizen interested in the affairs of the community in which he resides, he has served twelve years as a member of the village council. In politics he is a Republican, while his religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Richardson was married December 20, 1894, to Isabelle K. Dunn, who was born in Elgin Township, this county, April 25, 1877, daughter of Walter and Helen (Seeley) Dunn. The children of this union are: Herbert D., born March 2, 1896; Edith S., August 24, 1900; Charles W., August 18, 1911; Eileen R., June 27, 1912; Lois K., August 5, 1914; and Beth L., February 29, 1916.

**Walter Dunn**, who died at his home in Elgin, December 18, 1916, was for many years one of the leading stock breeders in Wabasha County, of which he was a pioneer settler. He was born in Great Valley Township, Cattaraugus County, New York, November 27, 1846, and there resided with his parents until he was 9 years old, when he came west with them to Dixon, Ill. Ten years later, when he was 19, his parents decided to move to Minnesota, and the family made the trip by team from Dixon to Wauseca. Three years later Mr.



Dunn came to Elgin to live, and on December 2, 1874, he was united in marriage with Helen Seeley, daughter of Alfred E. and Louise E. Seeley. She was born at Topsham, Vt., June 16, 1856, and when very young had accompanied her parents to Wisconsin and a number of years later to a home near Elgin, Minn. When married to Mr. Dunn she was residing with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Richardson. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn began housekeeping in the little house of Mrs. Seeley's, at Seeley Corners, two miles east of Elgin. In the spring of 1876 they moved to the Gould farm, just south of the Corners, where they made their permanent home. For many years Mr. Dunn was a breeder of blooded stock, his efforts along that line being of great benefit to the farmers of this section. He was prominent in township affairs, holding the office of supervisor for several years, and was an active member of the local creamery association. In the home he was a loving husband and father, a man who took great pleasure in his home life. He was an active member of the local Masonic lodge, and a charter member of the Woodmen lodge of Viola, for a number of years being consul of the order. He was always interested in any progressive move in the community, usually taking an active and leading part therein, and his integrity and sterling qualities won the respect and esteem of a large number of friends and associates. His death came as the result of a severe attack of pneumonia, he having taken cold while attending a cattle show in Chicago the week before. But a few weeks before he had lost his wife, who, after being an invalid for many years, passed away on October 11, 1916. She had been long identified with the order of Royal Neighbors at Viola, and her usefulness as a member and entertainer had secured her a warm corner in the hearts of all. Though not a member of any church, she had warm sympathies with church work, and her life had been an example of unselfish devotion to her family, and her time and energies for the good of the community in which she lived were given with a prodigal hand. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn had six children, all of whom survive, namely: Mrs. J. D. Siem and Mrs. Clyde Richardson, of Elgin; Mrs. C. W. Woodruff, of Chatfield; Mrs. Henry Schroeder, of Viola, and Mrs. Carl Houghton and George Dunn of Elgin.

**Nathaniel Hall Moody**, who was for 38 years an esteemed citizen of Elgin village, and is now numbered among the departed, was born in North Tunbridge, Vt., July 23, 1827. He was married March 8, 1851, to Lydia Dickerman, of Topsham, Vt., and for 15 years, or more, thereafter continued to reside in his native state. In January, 1867, he came to Minnesota and settled in Elgin. For two or three years he lived in different houses, successively, and then found a more permanent habitation in which he resided for the rest of his life. He had early learned the trades of carpenter and wagon-maker, which he followed here until his later years, when, on account of failing health, he opened a harness repair shop, which he conducted until the last two or three years of his life. He was always a good citizen and neighbor, and enjoyed the love and respect of all, and in the home he was a devoted husband and father. Though for many years more or less of an invalid, he bore his affliction with fortitude, and his sufferings were much mitigated by the unceasing ministrations of his devoted wife. He died at his home in Elgin, December 12, 1905, at the age of 78 years, 4 months and 19 days. On account of the large number of relatives present, his funeral was held in the Methodist Episcopal church, and his remains were sorrowfully laid to rest in the Elgin cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Moody had two children, both daughters: Sybil, wife of Charles S. Richardson, and Sylvia, wife of W. H. Woodward, both of whom survive him. His wife, Mrs. Lydia Dickerman Moody, survived her husband a few years, passing away Sunday morning, January 29, 1911.

Lydia Dickerman Moody was born in the little village of Topsham, Vt., August 28, 1828, daughter of Samuel and Jane Dickerman. Her happy childhood was spent among the hills of her native state, where she felt herself in close touch with nature, and enjoyed the free, healthful life in the open air









MR. AND MRS. CHARLES RICHARDSON



amid beautiful scenery, landscapes dotted with flocks and herds, and rippling streams which not far away were harnessed by man to drive thousands of industries. There she grew to womanhood, trained in the industry and frugality of her generation, skilled in the operation of the old-fashioned spinning-wheel, from which she turned out skeins of snowy yarn, and in all other household duties, which she performed songfully and with cheerful heart and spirits, the tresses of her dark hair making a fitting setting for her pleasant face, which was strikingly beautiful. At the age of 23 years she was married to Nathaniel H. Moody, and with him entered into a fuller life, first at Tunbridge, where his daughter Lydia was born, and shortly after at Wait's River, Vt., where he built up a thriving business. It was there that his other daughter, Sylvia, was born. In 1867, as elsewhere narrated, she came with her family to Elgin, Minn., where the rest of her life was spent, the last year and a half at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Richardson. Mrs. Moody was a woman of very lovable disposition who gathered sunshine from the commonest things of everyday life and spread it around her. In her early youth she had adopted the liberal religion of her father and was a Universalist, a faith to which she clung to the end, though in Elgin she was far removed from any church of that denomination. As her heart turned lovingly to Vermont, she made its churches the channel of her giving, and was their constant benefactor from as early as 1863. She gave to the Centenary Missionary Fund in 1870, and several times to Goddard Seminary; also to the Buckner Home for Girls in Japan, and missions and charities of various kinds and in various localities. Sometimes she clothed her thoughts in poetry, and near the end of her life she said: "I have seen worry and pain, but have enjoyed all the days of my life. God's victory is sure; unto him every knee shall bow; there shall be one field and one shepherd; all evil shall be put down. I rejoice that the day of release is not far off," with other expressions breathing of Christian faith and hope. Her last illness was of about two months' duration and was not accompanied by much suffering. To the last she was surrounded by loving relatives and friends. Her end was peaceful and she left a memory that will long endure. Mrs. Moody came of a numerous family, her father having been twice married. There have been four half brothers and four half sisters, in order as follows: Samuel, Polly, Mary, Lemuel, Elijah, Betsey, Sally and Lewis. Of her full brothers and sisters there were Rebecca, Persis, Enoch, John and Ezra. Of the half brothers, Elijah was the only one to come to Minnesota to live. Of the full brothers and sisters all except John, who died in Vermont, have been honored citizens of this community. All of the entire family preceded her to their final home, the last to answer the summons being Rebecca, familiarly known as "Grandma Ordway," who passed away in November, 1909, at the ripe age of 82 years. Nearly all the members of the family attained an advanced age.

**Charles S. Richardson**, who for many years has been one of the leading factors in the commercial development of Elgin, and also a force in the agricultural industry, is a native of New England, born in Topsham, Orange County, Vt., October 13, 1844. His parents were Thomas and Ruth (Smith) Richardson, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Vermont, in which latter state the father died when his son, Charles S., was nine years old. In 1858 the mother came west to Rock County, Wis., and in the following year to Elgin, Minn., where she died at the age of 68 years in August, 1862. Charles S. Richardson acquired his education in the district schools of Vermont and of Elgin, Minn., and during his school days gained industrial experience as a farm hand during his vacations and out of school hours. At the age of 15 he worked on a farm in Rock County, Wis., for eight months for \$60. When 24 years old he formed a partnership with his brother, H. G., in the operation of a farm of 160 acres, and subsequently he bought his brother's interests and became sole owner. In 1871, with the same brother, and his brother Joseph, he engaged in mercantile business in Elgin, under the firm name of H. G. Richardson & Co.



Meeting with success, they enlarged the scope of their business, in 1878 establishing a lumber concern under the style of Richardson Bros. Subsequently the Richardson brothers built the elevator west of the present depot, conducting it under the firm name of the Richardson Elevator Company. In 1899 Charles S. sold out his interests in the store, retaining those in the lumber yard and elevator. In the meanwhile he and his brother, H. G. Richardson, invested extensively in land, owning together about 2,000 acres, which subsequently they sold. The lumber interests were also closed out about 1889, but the subject of this sketch has still a financial interest in the elevator company. Since giving up the store he has been actively interested in agriculture, and is now the owner of a fine farm of 240 acres. He also owns half a section in the southwestern part of North Dakota, and is financially interested in the Zumbro Valley Land Co., of Rochester, Minn., whose holdings are in North and South Dakota. He is also treasurer of the Elgin Co-operative Creamery. While pushing his own fortunes Mr. Richardson has not been neglectful of the public interests, but has always been ready to lend a helping hand to every practical project for the welfare of the community. During his mercantile career he served for a number of years as postmaster, keeping the office in his store, and for a long period he was village treasurer. Whatever he did was done in a whole hearted and thorough manner, giving evidence of that native force of character that has always been one of his chief characteristics. His recollections extend back to an early period and cover the time of the Sioux outbreak in 1863, when, as a youth of 17 he, in company with others, set out for the scene of action, expecting to have a chance to render service. They went by way of Wabasha, up the Zumbro to St. Peter, securing blankets at Wabasha, but having to lay out all night in the rain. Though they did not get into the fighting, they had a memorable experience and after a short time returned home. On March 5, 1871, Mr. Richardson was united in marriage with Sybil Moody, who was born in Tunbridge, Orange County, Vt., August 3, 1852, and who came to Wabasha County in 1866 with her parents, Nathaniel H. and Lydia Moody. Six children have been born to them: Cylde S., who is now manager of the elevator; Thomas W., born December 11, 1894, who is operating the Richardson farm with his nephew, Herbert D. Richmond; Jessie and Ruth, deceased, and two who died unnamed in infancy. Thomas W. married Florence Dewitz and has one child, Hubert. Mr. Richardson is politically a member of the Republican party, and in religion a Universalist. He is a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., and is one of the citizens of Elgin whose character is held in high esteem and whose influence is widespread and powerful for good.

**Frank J. Richardson**, of Elgin, is a representative of one of the prominent pioneer families of Wabasha County, the best traditions of which he has exemplified in his own industrious and successful career. He was born in Elgin Township November 25, 1870, son of Joseph and Ursula E. (Miles) Richardson. His education was acquired in the public schools, and his agricultural training on his parents' farm. For many years he worked for his father, then renting the home farm, he conducted it on his own account for some twelve years, buying it in 1916, after his father's death. It contains 320 acres, situated in sections 22, 23 and 27, the residence being located in section 27. Mr. Richardson followed general farming successfully until 1919, when he sold the farm and retired to Elgin village, where he purchased his present neat and comfortable residence. For eight years he was a member of the Creamery board, and for two years of the town board. Mr. Richardson was married April 16, 1893, to Lizzie Siem, who was born at Breman, Oakwood Township, this county, May 15, 1875, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Siem. Of this union two children have been born: Margaret L., September 11, 1905, who is now attending high school; and Catherine U., February 28, 1912, who is a student in the public school. Mr. Richardson and his family occupy a high social position, and enjoy a wide personal popularity. They are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr.



Richardson belongs to the Masonic order, to the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, and in politics is a Democrat. Mrs. Richardson is a member of the Eastern Star Chapter. The comfortable circumstances they now enjoy, with the educational advantages afforded their children by a village residence, have been gained by hard work and thrift in that important industry that is Wabasha County's chief source of wealth, agriculture.

**Augustus Eleazer Patchin**, father of James Patchin, of Elgin village, was born at Newberry, Ohio, November 21, 1817. He was brought up to farm work, and was married in his native state, January 18, 1838, to Margaret A. McNish, who was born in the town of Salem, Washington County, N. Y., May 31, 1818. In 1848 or '49 Mr. Patchin came with his family to Wisconsin, and for two years resided in the vicinity of Kenosha. He then moved to Wyocena, Columbia County, Wis., where for the rest of his life he was engaged in farming. He died February 14, 1891, having survived his wife just ten years, the date of her death being February 14, 1881. Mr. Patchin was a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted in Company D, Tenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Wounded and taken prisoner at the battle of Chickamauga, he was incarcerated in Libby prison, and was there when a large number of prisoners made their escape by tunneling, but being incapacitated on account of his wound, he was unable to join them. He was later transferred to the prison at Danville, Va., and still later to that at Macon, Ga., where he was located at the time the great Fourth of July celebration was held there. Altogether he spent some 15 months as a prisoner—from September 20, 1863, to December 23, 1864. He was finally released and was discharged from the service with the rank of first lieutenant. He and his wife were the parents of five children: James, of Elgin, Minn.; Orlo C., of Wyocena, Wis.; John A., a resident of Montana; Herbert, of Wyocena, Wis.; and Elbert, who is now deceased.

**James Patchin**, a highly esteemed resident of the village of Elgin, where he has lived retired for the last 13 years, and who is also a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Newberry, Geauga County, O., March 8, 1844, son of Augustus Eleazer and Margaret A. (McNish) Patchin. His parents having moved to Wyocena Township, Columbia County, Wis., when he was young, he there attended the district school, and subsequently engaged in farming in that vicinity until reaching the age of 20 years. The Civil War was then raging, and wishing to do his duty as a good patriot, he enlisted May 27, 1864, in Company B., Fortieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, as a private. His service, for 100 days, ended with his muster out on September 16, 1864, and he returned home. But in February, 1865, he re-enlisted in Company I, Forty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until September 4, 1865, when he was mustered out with the rank of corporal. Until 1871 he remained in Columbia County, Wis., engaged for the most part in farm work, and, as he had married soon after the war, having a family to support. Then he came to Minnesota, and made a temporary location in Olmsted County, but soon went to Nobles County, where he took a homestead. On account poor health, however, he found himself unable to work it, and accordingly returned to Olmsted County and rented a farm in Viola Township, of Nelson Stoddard, on which place he remained for one year. He then bought a farm of 90 acres in the same township, which he operated for eleven years. He next removed to a farm of 160 acres which he purchased of Henry Stanchfield in Viola Township, and that place he made his home until the spring of 1907, when he retired and bought his present residence in Elgin, subsequently selling his farm. His active career was marked by intelligent industry and was rewarded by success, and he has well earned the prosperity and leisure which he now enjoys. He formerly served several years on the school board, and has always been interested as a good citizen in whatever was for the benefit of the community in which he lived. He is a member of Custer Post, No. 44, G. A. R., of Rocheser. Mr. Patchin was united in marriage March 27, 1866, with Eliza A. Spear, who was



born June 4, 1847, at Wyocena, Wis., and of this union nine children were born, of whom eight are living, namely, Charles A., born June 26, 1868; Edna M., March 23, 1870; Lottie, July 26, 1877; George H., Feb. 11, 1872; Elizabeth, March 31, 1880; Maude, February 14, 1882; Nellie, May 7, 1887, and Ruth, June 23, 1891. Maggie, born in 1885, died at the age of nine years. Of the survivors the following is a brief record: Charles A., who is now superintendent of schools at Worthington, Minn., married Anstis Belden. Edna M. is the wife of Herbert E. Preston and resides in Viola Township, Olmsted County. She has four children, Maude, Blanche, Joseph and Josephine, the two last mentioned being twins. George H., who is a farmer in Viola Township, Olmsted County, married Belle Lewis. Lottie is the wife of George Troupe, a farmer of Boyceville, Wis., and has two children, Mark and Beth. Elizabeth married Albert A. Monnette, a hardware merchant of Dayton, Wash. She has two sons, Wallace and Albert. Maude is an instructor in the state university, in the department of clothing and textiles. Nellie is the wife of Philip Finch, of Elmira, N. Y., and has one child, Philip. Ruth, who was formerly a teacher, is now studying clothing and textiles in the state university. On Monday, March 27, 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Patchin celebrated their golden wedding, the occasion being a notable one, marked by the presence of most of their children and grandchildren, besides other relatives and friends, to a large number. Others too far away to attend sent letters of regret and congratulation. The dining-room was beautifully decorated in a color scheme of white and yellow, with jonquils, daffodils and roses as the floral ornaments. Noticeable also were the white and yellow streamers from the chandelier to the table, and the place cards in the same colors. All those present joined in wishing the aged couple many more pleasant anniversaries, and on having attained in good health a milestone on life's highway reached only by a few. Mr. Patchin is still as active as many a much younger man. On election days he casts his ballot for the Republican candidate.

**Richard L. Wood**, a prominent resident of Elgin Village, whose life has been spent in agricultural pursuits, and who is now conducting a farm in the vicinity of the village, was born in Marquette County, Wisconsin, February 6, 1862, son of David J. and Sarah (Holt) Wood. When an infant of about three years he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., and subsequently attended district school in Elgin Township, where the parents had taken the farm on which he passed his youthful days. Under his father's instructions he became initiated into the best methods of general and dairy farming, proving himself an apt pupil. After leaving home he was employed for nine years as foreman on the farm of his father-in-law, H. G. Richardson, and at the end of that time, bought a farm of 80 acres in section 25, Elgin Township. The place was much run down, but he set to work with energy and enthusiasm to improve conditions, a task in which he admirably succeeded. Among his achievements were the erection of a house, 28 by 28 feet, with two stories and cellar; a basement barn, 40 by 80 feet, and a number of other out-buildings, for stock, poultry, tools and machinery. On this place he conducted general farming and stock raising very successfully until 1916, when he moved with his family to Elgin Village, and has since resided with his father, David J. Wood. He continued, however, to conduct his farm from town, until the spring of 1920, when he sold it, and is now conducting a farm of 70 acres adjoining the village limits, which he purchased in the summer of 1919. For three years Mr. Wood was a member of the Elgin town board, and for two years one of the directors of the Co-operative Creamery. He belongs to Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., and is also a Scottish Rite Mason. On September 28, 1884, he was united in marriage with Sylvia Richardson, who was born February 20, 1865, daughter of H. G. and Julia A. (Bowen) Richardson. Of this union five children have been born: Clayton, May 25, 1886; Gladys, April 5, 1893; Bernice, June 13, 1897; Florence, January 16, 1904, and Mildred, October 27, 1905. Clayton mar-









MR. AND MRS. DAVID J. WOOD



ried Hazel Depuy. Gladys is now the wife of Leo Petit, a farmer of Plainview Township. Bernice is the wife of Wray Eastlick, of Rochester, Minn. Florence and Mildred are students in the Elgin high school.

**David J. Wood**, formerly a representative farmer of Elgin Township, but now living retired in the Village of Elgin, is one of the most widely known pioneers of Wabasha County now living, and is a man who has always commanded the respect of his fellow citizens by his superior qualities of mind, heart and character. He was born in Middleburg Township, Wyoming County, N. Y., March 10, 1833, son of David and Marie (Vader) Wood. The parents, who were both natives of New York State, born near the Mohawk river in 1843, followed the trend of westward migration to Kenosha County, Wis., where David Wood, the father, worked land for two years. In 1845 they moved to Fond du Lac County in the same state, where they made a permanent home, spending the rest of their lives on a farm. David Wood died in 1883, and his wife survived him but a short time, passing away in the following year. They had a family of six children, Margaret, Peter, Sarah, Uriah, David J., and Mathias, of whom David J. is the only one now living. David J. Wood acquired his education in New York State, and was twelve years old when he moved with his parents to Brandon, Wis. He grew to manhood on their farm, and remained with them until he was 19 years old, at which time he went to Fox River, Marquette County, where he engaged in farming on his own account, also in threshing and land-breaking. In the meanwhile he married, and on July 28, 1865, located with his family in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Two years later he purchased 80 acres of land in section 24, Elgin Township, a part of which tract was broken, and there was also standing on it a straight side-board house. With this for a beginning, Mr. Wood set out to develop a good farm, and for a number of years was busily employed. He sided and remodeled the house, erected barns and other necessary out-buildings, and broke the balance of the land. He also increased the area of the farm to 120 acres by the purchase of 40 acres adjoining, and by long and arduous toil became in time the proprietor of a fine place, and widely known as a successful farmer and representative citizen. For several years he served as a member of the town board, and for many years as school director; and for a number of years during the latter period of his active career he was a member of the Farmers Elevator Company at Elgin, to which place he retired in 1910, purchasing his present residence. He is a member of Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A. F. & A. M., of Plainview. Mr. Wood was married January 1, 1857, to Sarah Holt, who was born in New York State, April 12, 1831, and who, after 54 years of happy married life, died July 11, 1911. Two children were born to them: Jerred D., March 28, 1859, and Richard L., February 6, 1862. Jerred D., who is now a prominent farmer of Olmsted County, married Ellen Bedard, and has had two children, David, now deceased, and Clara. Richard L. is now a representative citizen of Elgin.

**Dorr Dickerman**, who as farmer and merchant made a bright record during his active career, the last years of which were spent in Elgin Village, was born in Tunbridge, Orange County, Vt., March 12, 1855, son of Lewis and Emily Dickerman. He was educated in the schools of his native place, and when 23 years of age followed the tide of emigration westward, arriving in Elgin, Minn., March 30, 1878. He first worked as a farm laborer, and subsequently farmed for himself on rented land. In the spring of 1881 he purchased an interest in a hardware store in Elgin, and was engaged in the hardware business for nearly four years as a member of the firm of Ordway, Dickerman & Co. Later he exchanged his village property for the Ezra Dickerman farm in the north part of Viola Township, Olmsted County, which he owned at the time of his death, and erected thereon a very comfortable residence for himself and family. In 1915 he concluded to give up the strenuous labor of farming, and leaving his son Lewis to care for the farm, built a comfortable



modern home in the Village of Elgin, from which he passed to the life beyond the grave, November 17, 1916, after being an invalid for some two years. At various times Mr. Dickerman had held local office, both in Elgin and Viola Townships, being a man of clear perceptions and practical purpose in domestic and public affairs. He was one of the charter members of the Elgin Co-operative Creamery Association, and was elected at once as its treasurer, which office he held at the time of his death. His religious preferences were for the Universalist church, though he was not a member of any religious organization. His soul, however, was strongly imbued with the essence of true religion, and in his relations to his fellow men he followed the Golden Rule, "Do unto others as ye would that others should do unto you," than which no better can be found. His departure left a void not easily filled, and that the world was the better for his sojourn here is a fact realized by his family and all who knew him. Mr. Dickerman was married March 15, 1882, to Mary Senrick, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Senrick of the town of Haverhill, Olmsted County, Minn. The issue of their marriage was ten children, seven daughters and three sons: Emily, now Mrs. Charles Bailey, of Lamont, Wash.; Blanche, wife of Leon Sawyer, of Elgin, Minn.; Grace, wife of Roy Haney, of Rochester, Minn.; Stella, Nellie, Doris and Helen, unmarried; Lewis, who married Ada Sivley of St. Charles and is working his father's farm; Harry, employed in the Dripps Wholesale Grocery, Rochester, and Frank, the youngest child, residing with his mother. Nellie and Dorris are students at the Winona Normal School, and Stella is a clerk in the Elgin postoffice.

**William H. Richardson**, of Elgin, banker, grain merchant, and man of affairs, widely known and universally respected throughout this region, was born in Elgin Township, March 16, 1868, son of Joseph and Ursula E. (Miles) Richardson. He acquired his education in the local schools and at Darling's Business College in Rochester, Minn. For three years subsequently he was engaged in the grain business with Richardson Brothers in Elgin. He then became manager and buyer for the H. J. O'Neill Grain Co., at Leroy, Minn., continuing with that firm for six years. For the next 17 years he was traveling auditor for the American Malting Co. and the Western Elevator Co. In 1916 he purchased the estate interest belonging to his father, the late Joseph Richardson, in the 'Richardson Bros.' elevator at Elgin. It was then incorporated as the Richardson Elevator Co., with Charles S. Richardson, president; Clyde S. Richardson as manager, vice president and treasurer, and William H. Richardson as secretary. The company does an immense business in all lines of grain, coal, mill feed and salt. Mr. Richardson is also president of the First State Bank of Elgin. Aside from his own weighty personal affairs, he has rendered public service, having been president of the village council in 1917 and 1918, and being now treasurer of the board of education. In the Masonic order he has advanced to the thirty-second degree, the Arlington Club of Winona numbers him among its members, and he belongs also to the United Commercial Travelers. Politically he is a Democrat. Throughout his business career Mr. Richardson has shown quickness of perception, energy in execution, and a comprehensive grasp of affairs that have marked him out as a man of exceptional ability. He occupies a high place in the community, which he has won through force of character; yet success has left him unspoiled, and he is a man approachable and companionable, with an intelligent and sympathetic interest in every live topic, and ready to lend his aid and influence to every worthy cause.

**Angus McGillivray**, residing in the Village of Elgin, is a representative of that large class who, having achieved success in the cultivation of the soil, are now spending their latter years in ease and comfort as village residents. He was born at St. Polycarpe, Province of Quebec, Canada, January 10, 1859, and was there educated and grew to manhood. In 1880 he crossed over into the States and took up lumbering in the Michigan woods. Three years later,





WILLIAM H. RICHARDSON







in 1883, he transferred his activities to the pineries of Wisconsin, where eight years of his life were spent. Coming to Minnesota in 1890, he located at Woodland, in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, and for two years worked as a farm hand. Then, in 1892, he began farming for himself, buying 80 acres of land in section 25, Elgin Township, on which were a few unimportant improvements. The next 26 years of his life were spent in developing the place into a good farm, a task that included the erection of a complete set of buildings, besides fences, and land cultivation. An additional purchase of 40 acres gave him a farm of 120 acres, on which he followed agriculture until the spring of 1918. Then, finding himself in independent circumstances, he rented his farm to a tenant, and retired to Elgin Village, where he purchased the old Purvis place, together with four lots. This is a very pretty place, surrounded by an evergreen hedge, and the yard contains numerous evergreen trees and fine shrubbery. In 1919 Mr. McGillivray sold his farm. While residing on it he served two years as assessor of Elgin Township. He is a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M. On June 10, 1891, Mr. McGillivray was united in marriage with Clara Kimball, who was born in the county of Prescott, Ontario, Canada, December 14, 1863, and who came to the United States in 1883, locating in Plainview old settlement.

**Edwin H. Larson**, who as butter-maker at the Elgin Co-operative Creamery, is a representative of an important industry, with which he is thoroughly conversant through scientific training and experience, was born in Geneva, Minn., August 5, 1886, son of Arne and Mary (Thompson) Larson, who are still prominent farmers of Steele County, Minn. His schooling was obtained in that county, and he remained on the parental homestead until he was 18 years of age. He then went to Alberta, Canada, where for some time he was occupied as an expert driver of steam breaking-plows. Subsequently returning to Steele County, Minn., he was for two years second man, or helper to the butter-maker in the Owatonna creamery. In 1911 he took a short course in the Dairy School at Minneapolis, to better qualify himself as an expert butter-maker, and was thus able to accept a position in that capacity at Albert Lea, Minn., where he remained for one year. In January, 1914, he was tendered and accepted the position of expert butter-maker in the Co-operative Creamery at Elgin, Wabasha County, and has since justified the confidence of the stockholders and management, having gained a wide-spread reputation as one of the best butter-makers in the state. Since taking the position he has never lost a pound of butter from carelessness or inefficiency, and his product has commanded attention at all the different county and state fairs where it has been exhibited—in all a considerable number, as he can show 20 diplomas received at such expositions, in addition to a large number of prize ribbons and medals, and one grand prize in the form of a silver medal received from the dairy show held at Columbus, O., in 1918. Mr. Larson is a member of the Butter-Makers' and Managers' Association, and is vice president of the District Unit No. 5. He is also a member of the village council of Elgin, and has shown himself to be a public-spirited citizen interested in the general welfare of the community. He is the owner of 160 acres of land in Greenbush, Roseau County, Minn. Mr. Larson was married May 27, 1914, to Anna Anderson, of Ellendale, Steele County, Minn., who was born April 14, 1888, daughter of Ole J. and Mary (Ellingson) Anderson. Two children have blessed their union: Avis L., born April 26, 1916, and Gladys G., born September 7, 1919. Mr. Larson and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

**William Austin Johnston**, a well known and respected citizen of Elgin Village, who is engaged in light occupation but otherwise practically retired, was born in Fond du Lac County, Wis., March 28, 1862, son of Robert Bruce and Rosetta (Robbins) Johnston. The father, who was born in Greenock, Scotland, in 1818, was originally a rope-maker by trade, but later became a carpenter, and still later a farmer. His wife, Rosetta, was born in Copenhagen, Lewis



County, N. Y., and they were married in that state. They located in Fond du Lac County, Wis., in 1856, and for some three years Robert B. Johnston was there engaged in the manufacture of garden planters, in company with his wife's father, Austin Robbins, the inventor of the planter. After that Mr. Johnston worked 15 years as tank and bridge builder for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. He then came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Viola Township, Olmsted County, having bought the property some eleven years previously. There he died January 16, 1911. His wife survived him a little over two years, passing away March 13, 1913. Their two children were: Emma M., who was born in New York State, July 6, 1851, and William Austin, the subject of this sketch. William Austin Johnston was educated in the stone schoolhouse of his district in Viola Township, Olmsted County, and also at the Elgin high school. He began industrial life as a worker on the home farm, of which in 1894, he became manager, and as such conducted it until 1916. He then moved to Elgin and bought his present modern residence on Park street, where he has since resided. He still works on the farm, however, helping the tenant to whom he has rented it. It is known as Pleasant View Farm, and contains 160 acres. All the important improvements on it were instituted by himself, he having rebuilt the house, put up out-buildings, and erected a good silo. During his independent career on the place he made a specialty of raising Black Pole Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine, of which he bred large numbers, finding a profitable market. His sister, Emma, who kept house for him there, still performs that function in town. She was educated at Brandon, Wis., and at the Bernard School, a private institution, at Watertown, Wis., and subsequently taught school for several terms in Dodge County, Minn. Both brother and sister attend the Methodist Episcopal church in Elgin, and are numbered among the intelligent, progressive and useful members of the community.

William Meyer, residing on a farm in section 20, Pepin Township, which through a long period of years he was engaged in operating, was born in Columbus, Ohio, October 6, 1848, son of Balch and Mary Catherine Meyer. When a boy of nine years he accompanied his parents to a small farm near Dubuque, Iowa, resided there six or seven years, and then came with them to Wabasha County, Minn., settling on a tract of 120 acres of grub land in Pepin Township, 40 acres being in section 20 and 80 acres in section 29. The family made their dwelling in a small log house, and William and his brother, John F., assisted the father in clearing the land, which they did with the help of an ox team. The work was hard and almost constant, and William had but little opportunity to attend school. In time he succeeded to the ownership of the farm, having worked with his father until the latter's death in 1900. He improved and developed it, following agriculture successfully until his retirement in 1920. It is now being operated by his son, John A., who is doing diversified farming and making the place pay, as his father did before him. Mr. Meyer was first married in 1863 to Susan Assal, a native of Germany, who died a number of years later. By her he had three children: William H., born August 20, 1870, now a farmer in Glasgow Township; Frank J., born March 8, 1874, who is a resident of Wabasha City; and Catherine M., born February 4, 1880, who is the wife of Michael Nigon, a farmer living near Rochester, Olmsted County. On August 29, 1881, Mr. Meyer married Mary Zeimetz, of Pepin Township, and of this union six children have been born: Nicholas P., August 5, 1883; John A., November 30, 1885; Thomas T., May 8, 1888; Joseph L., June 28, 1892; Amelia Margaret, May 28, 1895; and Mae Catherine, April 23, 1898. Nicholas P., now a farmer in Pepin Township, married Veronica Schons and has three children, Florence, Marcella and Veronica. John A. is operating the home farm. Thomas T. is a barber in Wabasha, married Jenevieve Meyer, and has two children, Eileen and Eleanor. Joseph L. is a carpenter in Wabasha. Amelia Margaret and Mae Catherine are residing at home. The latter, who gradu-





MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MEYER







ated from the St. Felix high school and the normal school, is now a teacher. Mr. Meyer is a Democrat in politics, and he and his family are Catholics in religion, being members of St. Felix parish, Wabasha.

**Joseph Schmidt**, now living practically retired on a farm in section 25, Pepin Township, was born in Germany, April 20, 1852, son of Bernhardt and Mary Schmidt. The father was a blacksmith by occupation and was in poor circumstances. Joseph attended the common school up to the age of 14, and resided with his parents until he was 20. He was then obliged to shift for himself, and having an uncle at Belleview, Iowa, in the summer of 1873 he came to the United States. He resided six months in Belleview, and then came to Wabasha County, Minn., where he had a brother living. Of his parents' family of four sons and one daughter, all the sons came to America, the only two now living being Joseph and Henry, the latter a resident of Wabasha City. On arriving in this county Joseph settled in Glasgow Township, where he spent three years, working for farmers, especially in grubbing land. In 1877 he bought 160 acres of partly improved land in the same township, and started in for himself. There was a small house on the land and some log sheds for cattle, and the farm lay in three sections, 18, 19 and 20. On April 29, 1879, he married Elizabeth Kolker, daughter of Gerhardt and Elizabeth Kolker, of Glasgow Township, and they began housekeeping in the small dwelling above mentioned, in which they lived for ten years or more. At the end of that time Mr. Schmidt built a better house, and in subsequent years he cleared and developed the farm. In 1895 he sold it and bought his present farm of 166 acres in section 25, Pepin Township, a mile and a half from Wabasha City on the Lake City road. This property also he has improved, having a very comfortable house, and instead of the log stables which stood on the farm when he came here, he has today a good frame barn, 34 by 50 by 16 feet in size, with full stone basement; a good granary, hog house and other buildings. On the farm is also a fine orchard with over 100 trees. Mr. Schmidt retired from active work a few years ago, and since then the farm has been operated by August Drees, a son-in-law. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt have two children: Elizabeth, born August 25, 1883, now Mrs. August Drees; and Mary, born October 27, 1885, who is the wife of Theodore Oenning, and resides on a farm in Pepin Township. Mary and her husband have three children, Marietta, Gerhardt and Theodore. Mr. Schmidt served the township as supervisor for several years, and has always taken a warm interest in the welfare of the community in which he lives. He and his family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Felix congregation at Wabasha. August Drees was born in Germany February 5, 1876, son of Bernhardt and Theresa Drees, and came to the United States in 1892. He was married to Elizabeth Schmidt in 1912, and since 1913 has operated the Schmidt farm, being a practical and successful farmer, and also a man highly esteemed as a citizen. He and his wife have three children: Joseph, born February 21, 1914; Mary, born December 26, 1915; and Margaret, born December 22, 1918.

**Joseph Hampel**, one of the pioneer settlers in Elgin Township, who has long since passed away, was born in Vienna, Austria, September 11, 1811. There he was married to Marie Prince, a native of the same historic city. For some time he gained his living as a mechanic, manufacturing the woodwork for clocks and accordions, and was thus engaged until 1850, when, with his family, he set out for America, on the arrival in this country locating in Coshocton County, Ohio. There he was occupied for several years in farming. In March, 1856, he joined the tide of emigration to the Northwest, reached Winona, Minn., and remained there with his family for the winter. Coming in the following spring to Wabasha County, he took a claim of 160 acres in section 6, Elgin Township, and having built a log shanty, started to develop a farm. During those early days he and his family endured all the hardships which usually fell to the lot of the pioneer settler, but endurance, patience and work carried the



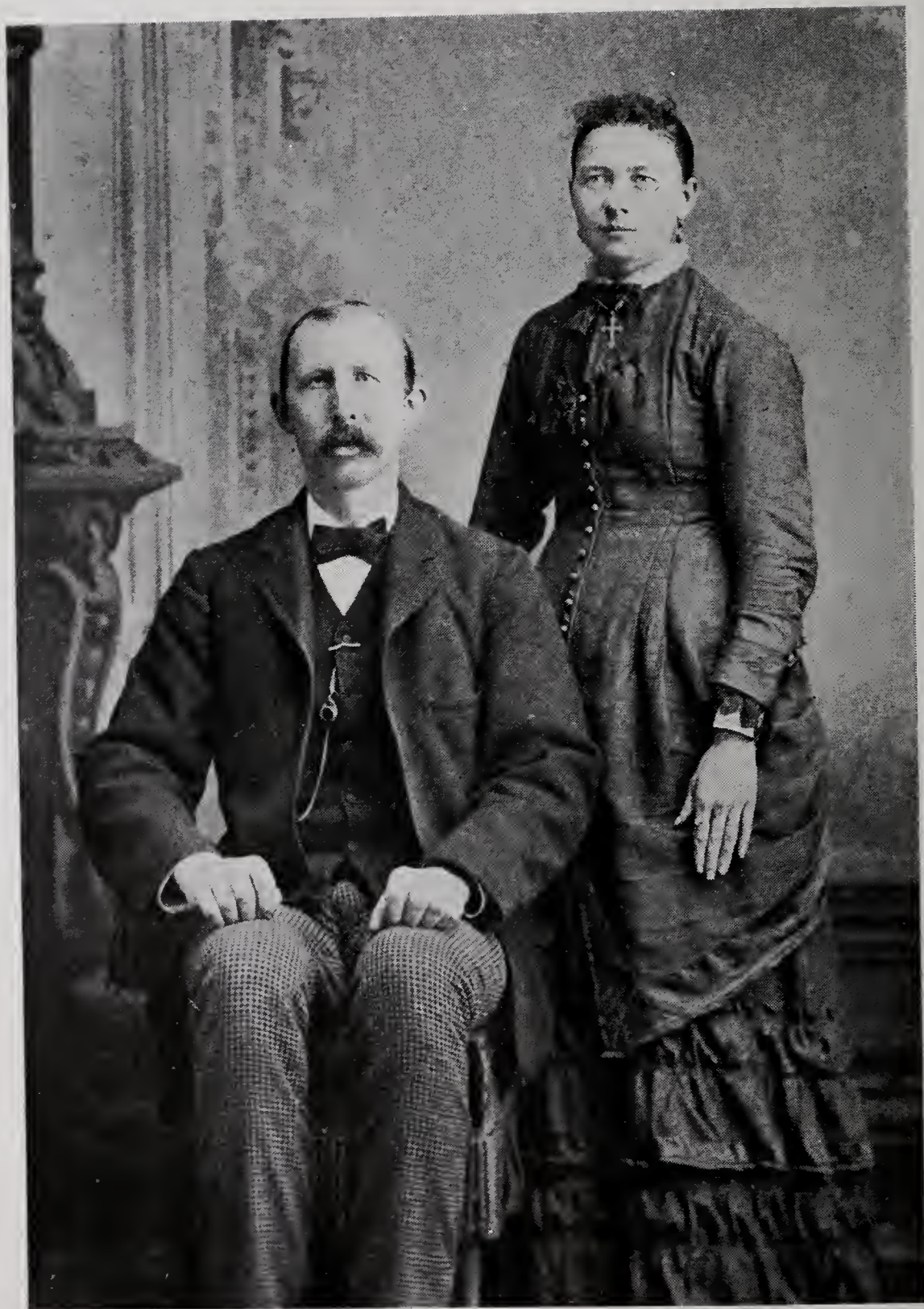
day, and they made gradual progress toward a better condition. After living on the farm a few years Mr. Hampel built a frame house, and later substantial barns and outbuildings were erected by him. During the first two years of their pioneer life the family were without wheat bread, but had to depend on corn and buckwheat as their staple breadstuffs, but in time they enjoyed an abundance of everything, raising all the principal crops on the farm, in addition to stock, and becoming prosperous and respected. In 1877 Mr. Hampel suffered a bereavement in the death of his wife, whom he survived for years, passing away in 1884. Eight children had been born to them, but two of whom, however, reached maturity, namely, Ferdinand, now residing in Elgin village, and Christina, who married Henry Schenkel, and went to Groton, Dakota (now South Dakota). The family were members of the Lutheran church.

**Ferdinand Hampel**, manager of the Elgin Co-operative Creamery, is a man whose present occupation is but the culmination of a long career of practical achievement in the realms of agriculture, business and politics. He was born in Vienna, Austria, September 16, 1843, son of Joseph and Marie (Prince) Hampel, and was there a boy of about seven years when in 1850 he accompanied his parents to the United States. His first English education was acquired in the public school of Coshocton County, Ohio, where the family remained for some years, operating a farm. In the fall of 1856 migration was made to Minnesota, and during the following winter, while his father was working as a teamster, young Ferdinand occupied a position as clerk in a hotel, earning money to aid his parents get started on a farm. The start was made in the spring of 1857, the land chosen lying in section 6, Elgin Township, Wabasha County. This he helped his father to clear, cultivate, develop, and supply with the necessary buildings. In 1867 he became owner of a part of the farm on which there were no buildings, and he therefore had to make a beginning for himself by erecting a log shanty and some straw sheds. This was soon done, and he then proceeded with other improvements. After a while he became manager of the home farm, and after his father's death its owner. In time he enlarged its area to 400 acres, all in section 6; also built a fine modern farm residence, and two large and well equipped barns, one 34 by 46 feet, and the other 34 by 64 feet, as well as a chicken-house, granary and machine-shed. All this work was well and thoroughly done, and Mr. Hampel was recognized as one of the most enterprising and successful farmers in the township, and also one of its foremost citizens in general reliability and grasp of public affairs. In 1883 he was elected to the lower house of the State Legislature, in which he served from 1884 to 1886. After following diversified farming until 1913, Mr. Hampel retired and purchased his present residence in the village of Elgin, where he has since made his home. He still owns 240 acres of his farm, which he rents to a tenant; the other 160 acres he gave to his sons, Joseph and Edwin. It was he, with six others, who organized the Elgin Co-operative Creamery Association, and he has been manager of the plant for the last five years. For 26 years he was vice president of the Rochester Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Co., and for the past ten years he has been its president. For many years he was a member of the Elgin town board, serving ten years a chairman, and he was also for a long time a member of the school board. Such long and varied service gives evidence both of ability and reliability, qualities which his fellow citizens have recognized belong to him in a high degree. Religiously he is affiliated with the Lutheran church. Mr. Hampel was united in marriage July 4, 1867, with Augusta Wendorf, who was born in Prussia, near the city of Culberg, October 6, 1850, and who came to the United States in 1862. After a happy married life of 45 years, she passed away on the farm March 12, 1912, leaving the memory of a lovable Christian woman who was faithful in all the duties of life. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hampel, as follows: Joseph, born January 22, 1870, now residing at home; Clara, born August 11,









MR. AND MRS. HERMAN DREES



1872, who was married November 25, 1897, to Walter Hein, and now resides at Braham, Minn.; Edwin E., born March 13, 1874, who married Louise Benike, and is now a farmer in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, Minn.; Bertha, born March 19, 1876, who was married September 8, 1898, to Max Hein, and resides in Elgin; Adella, born March 1, 1883, who was married October 25, 1915, to Albert A. Smith, and is now living in Clearwater, Florida; Walter F. A., born March 15, 1886, now residing in Elgin Township, who married Anne Hofmann on March 26, 1914; Elmer B., born August 20, 1889, who was married March 16, 1915, to Clara B. Fahrman, and is now living at Viola, Minn.; Ella, born June 29, 1891, who was married March 26, 1914, to Henry Hofmann, and is residing in Farmington Township, Olmsted County; Erma, born December 22, 1893, who was married October 2, 1916, to John Hofmann, and lives at Viola; Paulina, born April 27, 1881, who died November 5, 1895; and two others who died in infancy. Such is the record, briefly narrated, of one of the prominent families of this county, typifying the qualities of manhood and womanhood which have made it what it is—one of the foremost in wealth and agricultural development.

**Herman Drees**, who after an active career of forty years or more in this county, has arrived at prosperity by the hard but ready road of agricultural activity, was born in Hanover, Germany, July 14, 1848, son of Henry and Mary (Williams) Drees. His parents were farmers who lived and died in their native land. There Herman also remained until 1875, attending school to the age of 14, and out of school hours being obliged to work, with little leisure for play. When he was 27 years old letters received from a brother, Benedict, who had emigrated to Nova Scotia, contained such a glowing account of this country that he resolved to emigrate also, and accordingly in 1875 he set out, landed in Baltimore, and came direct to Wabasha County. Here for six or seven years he worked as a farm hand, being mainly employed in grubbing. During this time he saved most of his earnings, and was finally able to buy 80 acres of land on Zumbro Bottoms, back of Wabasha. In about a year he sold that tract, and for six years or more subsequently was engaged in the saloon business at Wabasha and Reed's Landing. In 1880 he returned to farming, buying his present farm of 180 acres in section 23, Pepin Township, four and a half miles west of Wabasha. The land was but slightly improved, most of it being in timber, and Mr. Drees began operations by erecting a small board house, in which he lived for some years. His subsequent career has been similar to that of other hard-working and successful farmers, and he has today a well developed farm, with a good two-story frame house, a barn 36 by 56 by 14 feet, with full stone basement, and other substantial buildings, including a tool shed, corn crib, machine shop and poultry house. He engaged in general farming, finding a ready market for all his produce, and continued active work until several years ago, when he turned over the management of the farm to his son, Bernhard, though still residing thereon. Mr. Drees was married in 1883 to Mary Jennings, daughter of Henry and Helen Jennings, and a native of Hanover, Germany, their wedding taking place at Wabasha, to which place she, with her sisters, Theresa and Helen, had come in 1882. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Drees: Paul, born at Reed's Landing in June, 1884, died in infancy; John, born at Reed's Landing June 1, 1885, who is a farm laborer residing at home; Emma, born September 10, 1887, who is now Mrs. Anton Voskar, of Arkansaw, Pepin County, Wis., and has two children, Dorothy and Marcella; Bernhard, born April 30, 1891, who is operating the home farm; Mary, born March 15, 1895, who died May 3, 1919; and Clara, born August 3, 1899, who resides at home with her parents. The family are of the Catholic faith and members of St. Felix parish at Wabasha. In politics Mr. Drees is a Republican. Though not active in public affairs, he is a well known and respected citizen.

**Ralph Waldron Huffman, M. D.**, who, after service in the recent World War, has established himself in the practice of his profession at Elgin, was



born at Barth, Ontario, Canada, September 27, 1873, son of Cyrus and Angeline (Miller) Huffman, who also were Canadians by birth. The mother died in 1875, but the father is still living at Barth. Ralph W. Huffman was graduated from the Napanee high school, of Ontario, in the class of 1897. He then entered Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario, from which he was graduated in the class of 1899. The next eighteen months of his life were spent in Nicaragua, Central America, where he was engaged in the practice of medicine. In 1901 he came to Minnesota, locating at Georgetown, Clay County, where he followed his profession for four years. Then for two and a half years he followed it in Chatfield, Fillmore County, and for three years subsequently in Stewartville, Olmsted County. A sense of duty to his native land then caused him to return to Canada, where he entered the Canadian army as captain in the medical corps, and in that capacity he spent eight months on transports, crossing over to England four different times. Having escaped the submarines and other dangers, and with an enlarged and varied experience, his service came to an end, and he was honorably discharged September 11, 1919. He then came directly to Elgin, where he is already enjoying a lucrative practice in medicine and surgery. He is a member of the Olmsted County Medical Society and of the State Medical Association, also of the Masonic order and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Joseph Gosse, who during his span of life in Wabasha County made a good record as a successful agriculturist and reliable and useful citizen, was born in Hanover, Germany, December 23, 1850, son of Bernhard and Caroline (Rumke) Gosse. The father was a small farmer in Germany, and he and his wife has nine children: Christine and Theresa, who are still living in Germany; Joseph, the subject of this sketch; Henry, of Greenfield Township; Mary, now Mrs. August Schutch, of Greenfield Township; Josephine, wife of Fred Welter, of Crookston, Minn.; Bernhard, deceased; and Clemens and August of Wabasha city. Joseph Gosse, who attended school in his native land, resided there until attaining his majority. Then in 1871 he came to the United States, locating first in St. Cloud, Minn., where his grandparents on his mother's side then resided. His occupation for seven or eight years after arriving in this country was that of a farm hand. During that time he saved his money, and in 1880 came to Wabasha County and bought 160 acres of partly improved land on Pepin Hill, in section 23, Pepin Township. The location was four and a half miles west of Wabasha city and near Reed's Landing, which at that time was a lively place. The buildings on the place were small and unimportant, and the work of developing a good farm lay before him. It was a task for which he was suited. He was industrious and frugal, and at once set to work. The task took time but was gradually accomplished. The neighbors saw first one new building then another go up, the cultivated acres increased, the land was fenced, cattle and other stock multiplied, and Mr. Gosse took his place among the well to do citizens of his township, and was respected for his achievements, as for his personal character. All this was not accomplished alone, for Mr. Gosse had the aid of a good wife, who did her full part in looking after the affairs of the household and rearing a family of children, who as they grew up became useful to their parents. Mrs. Gosse was in maidenhood Catherine Kennebeck, daughter of Bernhard and Letta Kennebeck, of Big Waumandee, Buffalo County, Wis., and was born August 15, 1863. They were married June 19, 1883, and lived together in happy wedlock for nearly 32 years, when death broke the bonds that united them, and Mr. Gosse passed to the higher life on April 19, 1915. His remains were laid to rest in St. Felix cemetery at Wabasha, he and his family being faithful Catholics and long members of St. Felix' parish. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gosse, namely: Mary, March 21, 1885; Bernhard, May 15, 1887; Caroline, August 20, 1889; Frank, July 1, 1891; Anthony, June 21, 1893; Theodore, January 28, 1897; Lizetta, March 6, 1899; Joseph, May 28, 1901; and Louis, October 28, 1903. Mary is



now Mrs. William Tritchler, and has three children, Myrtle, Ervin and Catherine. Bernhard married Maude Preston, who is a farmer near Bearman, N. D., and has two children, Mary and Joseph. Caroline is the wife of George Bruegger, a farmer near Bowman, N. D. Frank, who is farming near Bearman, N. D., married Lottie Seybold, and has a son named Estell. Anthony is working the home farm for his mother. Theodore is a bridge builder in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway and resides at home when not working far away. He was drafted October 24, 1918, sent to Camp Forrest, Georgia, and discharged at Camp Dodge, Iowa, January 3, 1919. Lizetta, Joseph and Louis are residing at home with their mother, the two youngest attending St. Felix school.

**Matthew Arens**, a member of the firm of McDonough & Arens, general merchants of Kellogg, is one of the live business men of this thriving community, and a citizen held in high esteem. He was born in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, December 29, 1893, son of John and Amelia (Weber) Arens. The father was a native of the Duchy of Luxemburg, and the mother of Baden-Baden, Germany. On coming to Wabasha County they took land in Greenfield Township, where they are now living on a 160-acre farm, engaged in general agriculture and stock raising. They are the parents of five children, all now living in Wabasha County, namely: Emil, Barbara, Michael, Margaret and Matthew. Matthew Arens was brought up on his parents' farm and in his boyhood attended both the parochial and district schools. While attending school in Wabasha he worked in his brother's store there. Subsequently he became clerk for John Costello & Co., with whom he remained four years. In 1916 he entered into his present business as a partner with James McDonough, and is now in the full tide of a prosperous career as one of the leading merchants of Kellogg, the firm handling all the various kinds of goods forming the stock of an up-to-date general store. Mr. Arens was married November 7, 1916, to Bessie Odell, daughter of Bert and Margaret Odell, of Kellogg. He and his wife have one son, Matthew Odell. Mr. Arens and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus. He is known far and wide as a successful merchant, a good citizen and a true American.

**Edward M. York**, a pioneer of Hyde Park Township, who died in 1897, at the age of 75 years, was born at Webster, Me., January 6, 1823, son of John and Eliza York. The early ancestors of the family on the paternal side were of English and Irish blood, and came to America at an early day from England. On the maternal side the ancestry was Scotch and Welch, and one or more were numbered among the Mayflower's passengers who landed at Plymouth, Mass., in 1620. At a later date the York family settled in Maine, where they were established for several generations. In 1855 the brothers moved to Minnesota, viz., William G., Isaac J. and Edward M., and located on farms in Wabasha County, and without doubt members of this family served in both the War of 1812 and the Revolutionary War. Edward M. York was educated in the common schools of the old Pine Tree State and spent his youth on his parents' farm. In 1851 he removed to New Hampshire, where he remained until 1855. He then emigrated west to Wabasha County, Minn., settling on section 31, Zumbro Township, in what is now Hyde Park, the location being four miles northeast of Hammond. There he owned 200 acres of land, and became a prominent citizen, serving for some years as assessor, and for 30 years as supervisor. Politically he was a Democrat. Mr. York married Mary Sinclair, whose parents were natives of Maine, and of this union were born nine children. Three of the children, Jennie L., Isaac and Arthur, died previous to 1884, but the others are still living, namely: Edward N., of Hammond; Dora Ann, wife of Ole H. Olson, of Hammond; Minta, widow of M. J. Muldoon, formerly a grain buyer of Hammond; Elnora L., wife of Charles Wading, of Hammond; Lorinda A., wife of Frank Lawson, residing in Goodhue County; and Estella A., wife



of Frank A. Parker, living on a farm three miles south of Goodhue. The mother, Mrs. Mary York, died in January, 1892, at the age of 64 years.

**Edward Nathaniel York**, for many years a leading citizen of Hammond, with the development of which village he has had much to do, was born in Manchester, N. H., November 19, 1853, son of Edward M. and Mary (Sinclair) York. He was about two years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., this being more than two years before Minnesota became a state, and for the last 64 years he has lived within four miles of Hammond, the farm on which his parents settled being four miles to the northeast of the present village. After attending the district school he took a commercial course in a business college, but remained on the home farm until he was 27 years old. Then coming to Hammond, he entered upon a business career, starting a general store, which he conducted alone for 13 years. At the end of that time William Kruger became his partner, and besides carrying on the store they started the first creamery in this part of the county, which they conducted together for seven years and then sold to the farmers. Mr. Kruger remained in the store business for about four years longer and then sold his interest in it to Adam A. Funk. In the same year Andrew Haggerty, a farmer, joined Mr. York, and Mr. Funk increased the stock and erected the building in which the business is now carried on under the style of E. N. York & Co. The concern handles a general line of merchandise, including dry goods, shoes, groceries and men's and ladies' furnishings. In the fall of 1899 E. N. York was instrumental in organizing the Hammond State Bank, and served as its cashier and president, being still a director. His son Walter is now cashier. Mr. York also served as postmaster of Hammond for 26 years. He was for four years a member of the county board of commissioners, was treasurer of the town of Zumbro for 13 years, treasurer of Hammond Village nine years, school treasurer for many years, trustee of the village two years, and also a member of the school board. During his long and active public career he was never once defeated for a public office—a strong testimony to the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens, which is justified by his record. Both in his business and public career he has given the best that was in him to the matter at hand, never sparing himself when there was work to be done, and his efforts have had beneficial and permanent results. For all these things he is respected by his fellow citizens, while his social qualities have also made him personally popular. Edward N. York was married at Alma, Wis., in May, 1882, to Amelia Dodsall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dodsall, the parents being natives of Germany. Of this marriage have been born nine children: Ella, now the wife of Alfred L. Schuchard, a farmer of Hyde Park Township; Walter E., cashier of the Hammond State Bank; Earl, a traveling salesman; Harry, employed in his father's store, who enlisted in the infantry and served 17 months in France during the recent world war; Francis, a boy possessing musical talent, which he is cultivating; Herbert O., who also enlisted for service in the recent war and was stationed in Tennessee; Raymond, manager of the local telephone company; Ernest, who is in the confectionery business in Hammond, and Arleigh, who is residing at home.

**Walter E. York**, son of Edward N. and Amelia (Dodsall) York, was born in Hammond, Minn., March 22, 1886. His education was acquired in the village school and at Rochester Business College. He subsequently worked for four years in his father's store. After the organization of the Hammond State Bank, he entered it as bookkeeper, and so continued until January 12, 1909, when he was made assistant cashier. On January 14, 1919, he was elected cashier, which position he still holds. He was married June 19, 1913, to Bertha Caspari, whose parents were early settlers in Wabasha County. He and his wife are the parents of one child, Dallas.

**Ralph E. Graves**, now engaged in operating a feed mill at Elgin, was born at Whitewater Falls, Minn., April 14, 1886, son of Washington and Minnie





E. N. YORK GROUP







(Soreson) Graves. The father was a native of Vermont who came to Minnesota in 1856 among the pioneers. He first settled near Lewiston, where he followed blacksmithing. Later he bought a farm in that locality, but subsequently sold it and removed to Whitewater Falls, where he bought another farm, residing there for 23 years. He then removed to a farm south of Elba, Winona County, where he died in 1909. His wife, a native of Norway, whom he married in Winona, is now living at Elba. Their three children are all living, namely, Leonard S., a bank cashier; Edward, residing on a farm in Elgin Township, and Ralph E., of Elgin. Ralph E. Graves in his boyhood attended school in Elba and worked on his parents' farm. He then entered the Elba mill, where he spent four years learning and mastering the milling business. In 1910 he came to Elgin and bought the old Elgin mill, which he operated for three years, at the end of that time erecting his present mill on the railroad, which he is now running as a feed mill, grinding grist for the farmers. The machinery is operated by a 20-horsepower oil engine, and Mr. Graves has named his mill the Elgin Feed Mill. He is the sole proprietor. He is thus launched on a promising enterprise and has the energy and ability to conduct it to a successful issue. Mr. Graves is a past master of the Masonic Blue Lodge No. 115 at Elgin.

**Michael Costello**, one of the pioneer settlers of Highland Township, was born in County Galway, Ireland, where he grew to manhood and was married to Bridget McDonough. In 1848 they came to the United States, settling first in Vermont, whence they removed to Ohio, and from the latter state to Virginia. In 1856 they arrived in Wabasha County, Minn., locating on 160 acres of land in Highland Township, which they later homesteaded. Two other tracts of land were subsequently purchased, one of 100 acres and one of 80 acres, the latter of which, however, they sold, leaving their farm with an area of 260 acres. On this Mr. Costello began improvements, but he was not permitted to bring his labors to full fruition, as he died in 1879, 23 years after his arrival in this county. His wife died at the age of about 75 years in 1897. As one of the advance guard in the march of civilization in this region, Mr. Costello played an important part, and when he passed away he left worthy descendants to continue the work he had begun. He and his wife had in all 14 children, five of whom are still living, namely, Maria, wife of George Fox of Aberdeen, Wash.; Bridget, widow of John McNallan, and a resident of Glendive, Mont.; Daniel, a practicing physician, of Grand Rapids, Minn.; Martin J., residing in Wabasha, and John, a banker in Kellogg.

**John Costello**, banker and merchant, of Kellogg, is one of the live factors in the business world in Wabasha County, which he formerly served as a public official. He was born in Wheeling, W. Va. (then Virginia), in 1855, son of Michael and Bridget (McDonough) Costello. In the year after his birth his parents, who had come to this country from Ireland, joined the tide of westward emigration to Minnesota, settling on land in Highland Township, Wabasha County. There he was reared, acquiring his elementary education in the district school, and later attending college at Prairie du Chien, Wis. He began industrial life by assisting his father to develop the home farm, and after his father's death in 1879, continued for some time in the same manner to help his mother. His mind, however, was set on a business career, and therefore, on a favorable opportunity, he came to Kellogg and entered the employ of J. A. Schonweiler as clerk in that merchant's store. Later, after acquiring some business experience, he went to Wabasha, where he engaged in the grocery and feed business on his own account. He thus made many acquaintances, upon whom he created so favorable an impression that it was no surprise to anybody when, in 1900, he was elected county treasurer. On the occurrence of that event he sold his business and for the next four years—the length of his incumbency—devoted his time to the affairs of his office. He then returned to Kellogg and, associating himself with C. C. McDonough and Peter Weimsch-



kirsch, bought out J. A. Schonweiler and engaged in the general mercantile business. Later he and Mr. McDonough bought the interests of Mr. Weimschkirsch, and in 1905 the business was incorporated. Subsequently Mr. McDonough sold out and the concern has since been conducted as the John Costello Co., with John Costello as president, and is now numbered among the important and flourishing business houses of Kellogg. In 1905 C. C. Hirschey, Linn Whitmore and John Costello started a private bank in Kellogg, which was conducted as such for three years. In 1908 it became a state bank, with Mr. Costello as cashier, which office he held until his son, John D., returned from the war in December, 1918, when the latter became cashier, John Costello taking the office of vice president, which he still retains. Mr. Costello was married at Wabasha, Minn., to Carrie Hager, daughter of Herman and \_\_\_\_\_ (Brandseit) Hager. The parents were natives of Hanover, Germany, who came to the United States at an early date, settling in Glasgow Township, this county, where they engaged in farming. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Costello have had two children, Margaret L. and John D., the former of whom came to a sad and tragic end. She was a school teacher in Rochester, and had just stepped off the sidewalk, being about to cross the street, when she was struck by an automobile driven by a Canadian, and killed. John D. Costello, now cashier of the State Bank of Kellogg, enlisted in the United States' service in August, 1917, and was honorably discharged in December, 1918, his service having been in this country. Mr. Costello and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus, Modern Woodmen and Samaritans.

**William A. Engel**, proprietor of a confectionary business in Elgin, Minn., was born in Winona County, this state, January 28, 1878, son of Frederick and Johanna (Holst) Engel. The parents, natives of Germany, came to this country when single, and were married at Fountain City, Wis. On settling in Winona County, Minn., they took a farm on Oak Ridge, near Mt. Vernon. Frederick Engel died in 1895. His wife subsequently removed to Plainview, where she passed away in February, 1909. They had six children, one of whom, Edward, died from influenza in 1918, a sister, Freda, having died in 1894. The living are: William A., of Elgin; Herman, who now owns the old home farm, having bought the interests of the other heirs; Henry, a resident of Stockton; and Minnie, who is the wife of Henry Ott, and lives on a farm near Plano, Ill. William A. Engel acquired his education in the district school and grew to manhood on his parents' farm, on which he resided until 1906, when he removed to Plainview, Wabasha County, with his mother. After her death he worked in different places, spending three years in Rochester. Then in 1910 he came to Elgin and opened a grocery store in a building which he purchased, later adding general merchandise to his store. For awhile his brother Henry was in partnership with him. Subsequently he sold out to W. O. Frish and Harry Engel. The store is now known as the Farmers' Store and is operated by Frish & Oelkers. Mr. Engel also opened a confectionary store, which he took charge of after disposing of his general mercantile business, and which he is still conducting, handling, in addition to confectionary, ice cream, soda, candy, cigars and tobacco. He enjoys a good patronage and is numbered among the enterprising business men of the village.

**Alfred C. Roberts**, one of the leading merchants and business men of Hammond, was born in Plainview, Wabasha County, Minn., August 12, 1872, son of Dr. Francis H. and Helen (Perrine) Roberts. The parents, who were natives of Missouri, came to Wabasha County in the early sixties, settling in Plainview, where Dr. Francis H. Roberts for many years practiced his profession of physician and surgeon, becoming one of the best known doctors in this part of the state. He was also one of the most popular, being a man whom everybody not only respected but loved, not merely for his skill, which, for his day, was of a high order, but for his cheerful, kindly and helpful disposition. He



continued in active practice until five years before his death, which occurred March 7, 1909, and when he passed away there was deep sorrow throughout the community. Dr. and Mrs. Roberts were the parents of eight children, six of whom are now living: Carrie, Mary, Alfred, Tenna, Frances and Edward. Carrie is now the widow of Edward Woodruff and resides in Rochester, Minn. Mary, the wife of Arthur Searles, resides on a farm in Olmsted County. Tenna married Schuyler Bigelow and lives on a farm in Olmsted County. Frances is the wife of Frank Domkie, a farmer of Olmsted County. Edward is a telegraph operator residing in the State of Washington. Alfred C. Roberts was reared in his native township of Plainview, where he attended public school. For five years he followed farming, and then went into the creamery business, being employed as butter maker for 16 years. In 1901 he came to Hammond from Millville, and conducted the creamery here until 1908, at which time he opened a general store in Hammond under the style of A. C. Roberts Co. After conducting the business successfully until 1915, he sold it to the Farmers Co-operative Company, who retained him as manager. More recently the business has again come under his control, and he is now conducting it on his own account with profitable results. For several years he has served the village as trustee, and has proved himself an active factor in its development. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Roberts was married at Douglass, Minn., to Anna Kohn, daughter of William and Augusta Kohn. Her parents were born in Germany and emigrated to Minnesota, taking a farm in Olmsted County. Both are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts have two children: William and Leonard, both of whom are living at home, William helping his father in the store and Leonard attending school.

**Forest W. Dushek**, one of the leading hardware men of southern Minnesota, located in Elgin Village, was born in Quincy Township, Olmsted County, this state, May 10, 1883, son of Perry and Lucy (Smith) Dushek. The father was a native of Austria, who came to America at the age of seven years, and to Plainview, Wabasha County, in 1865. For several years he broke land here with an ox-team. In 1873 he and his wife, the latter a native of this country, located in Olmsted County and engaged in farming in Quincy Township, where they are still living. They are the parents of five children: Forest W., subject of this sketch; Mattie, now Mrs. Bert Hein; Harry, residing on the home farm in Olmsted County; Wealthy, wife of Gust Miller, of Olmsted County; Pearl, wife of Frank Muirhead, who is principal of the high school at Davenport, Ia. Forest W. Dushek was educated in the public school of Elgin. In 1906 he bought a farm of 400 acres, located in sections 19, 20 and 29, Elgin Township, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1910. He then sold the place and moved to Elgin Village, where he purchased a half interest in the hardware firm of Siem & Bartz, Mr. Siem retiring from the firm, the business for the next four years being conducted under the style of Bartz & Dushek. Mr. Dushek then purchased the interests of Mr. Bartz, and since then has been sole owner and proprietor of the business, which he has considerably developed, at present carrying about \$16,000 worth of stock, including a full and complete line of shelf and heavy hardware. His store is modern and is fully equipped for handling an immense trade, the floor space amounting to 25 by 118 feet. His sales are on the increase and amount to a large sum annually. Mr. Dushek has won the reputation of an honest and upright business man. He is a good buyer, and energetic in all his dealings, prompt to ascertain the public demand and quick to supply it at prices comparing favorably with those in the large cities. He has recently erected the finest residence in the Village of Elgin, it being thoroughly modern in every respect. The house is large and spacious, measuring 30 by 36 feet. The main building has nine rooms, with a full set of closets. There is also a sleeping-porch, and large verandas, the inside finish being in quarter-sawed white oak. The residence is electrically lighted, and provided with hot water heat, and with a domestic ice plant. Mr. Dushek is a member



of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M. He was married February 22, 1906, to Clara Lamprecht, of Plainview, who was born September 2, 1882, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lamprecht. He and his wife are the parents of one child, Willa W., who is a student in the Elgin public school.

Albert Mielke, a respected citizen of the Village of Elgin, where for many years he has followed the occupation of stock buyer, also dealing in farm lands, was born in Germany, March 22, 1852, son of Fred and Anna Mielke. Both his parents are now deceased, the mother having passed away when Albert was seven years old, and the father in 1914. The subject of this sketch was educated in his native land, where he remained until 1873. Then having attained his majority, he signalized his independence by sailing for America, locating first in Logansport, Ind., where for six months he was engaged in railroad work. But having some ambition, he was not content to be a wage earner, and rightly regarding the Northwest as a favorable field of opportunity, he set out for Wisconsin, worked there for about a month, and then came on to Minnesota. For two years thereafter he was engaged in farm work in Olmsted County, during which time by frugality he accumulated a little capital. Then he launched out into his present business of stock buyer—one that his father had followed in Germany, and of which, therefore, he knew something. For the first ten years he acted as buyer for Jake Risler, but since coming to Elgin, he has acted independently, buying for himself and shipping stock to the leading markets. When favorable opportunities presented, he has also bought and sold both farm lands and village property. His operations have been carried on with prosperous results, and he is now in good circumstances. Among his business interests are those of a stockholder in the State Bank of Elgin. Mr. Mielke forsook bachelor life some 54 years ago, when, on September 3, 1875, he was united in marriage with Paulina Radtke. She was born in Germany, January 21, 1856, daughter of Fred and Albertina (Hartwich) Radtke. Her father having died in Germany, the mother in 1873 married August Buhow, and in the following year Paulina came with them to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Mielke have had nine children, of whom the following is a brief record: Anna, born September 12, 1876, is now the wife of George Krohns, of Chicago. Tillie, born April 10, 1879, died at the age of six years. Fred, born June 7, 1881, married Dena Spring and resides in Rochester, Minn. Amelia, born August 12, 1883, was the wife of Walter Biele, but died in April, 1914. Lizzie, born in March, 1884, died at the age of one year. Laura, born February 19, 1886, is the wife of Philip Karon, of Chicago. Hulda, born September 3, 1887, died when nine months old. Tina, born May 8, 1889, is the wife of Jacob Lewis, of Chicago. Mattie, born May 9, 1891, married William Hagner of Elgin, where she is now living. Violet, the youngest child, born August 5, 1894, is now engaged in teaching. Mr. Mielke and family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Joseph Schmidt**, one of the sturdy pioneers of Wabasha County who made a notable record in his day as a developer of wild land, was a native of Germany, where he grew up and was married. With his wife, Barbara, he came to America about 1846, locating first in Iowa, where a son, Louis, was born. Mr. Schmidt had learned the trade of cooper in Germany and followed it in Iowa until 1854. In 1856 he pre-empted 160 acres of wild land near what is now Theilman, in Wabasha County, and moved onto it with his family. The next eight years of his life was spent in developing that property, which he sold in 1864. He was evidently a man of enterprise, not afraid of hard tasks, for he next invested in 1,120 acres of grub land in Pepin Township, seven and a half miles southeast of Lake City. There he built a small frame house and began the work of clearing, a task which he kept up until, with the aid of his wife and children, he had grubbed and cleared over 500 acres and developed a fine farm. In the early seventies, moreover, he built on his property a substantial stone house, consisting of a large upright and wing, and which is now









HENRY SCHMIDT AND FAMILY



occup. by his grandson, Fred Joseph Schmidt. He also bought another tract of 160 acres adjoining the larger one, thus becoming the owner of 1,280 acres, and successfully carried on general farming. His work kept him too busy to engage in politics, but on election days he usually voted the Democratic ticket. His first wife, whose maiden name was Barbara Feister, died on the Thielmann farm, and he subsequently married Hannah Trother, of Reed's Landing. Of this second union there were no children, but of the first there were eight: Louis, Henry, Mary, Jacob, Lucinda, Joseph, John and Addie. All except Addie, who married John Kievel, of Fergus Falls, Minn., came to the Pepin Township farm and assisted to clear and develop it. Henry is now a retired farmer residing in section 19, Pepin Township. John is farming in Pepin Township. Lucinda is the wife of Horace Borst, a farmer in the same township. Louis, Mary, Jacob and Joseph are now deceased. Mr. Schmidt died in 1902 or 1903, having previously sold his farm to his son, Henry. As a pioneer farmer and developer of land he had made a fine record. In religion he was a Catholic, as are all the members of his family.

**Henry Schmidt**, now living retired in section 29, Pepin Township, on a large farm which he did much to develop, was born in Wabasha village, October 15, 1855, son of Joseph and Barbara (Feister) Schmidt. The parents had settled in this county in the previous year, being among the first white settlers here. Henry spent the first 11 years of his life on their first farm, near Theillmann, and then accompanied them to the large tract of 1,120 acres in Pepin township which the father bought, subsequently purchasing 160 acres more. He helped the other members of the family to clear and develop 500 acres of this tract into an excellent farm, and has always remained on the homestead, which he finally purchased from his father, beginning independent farming in 1879 or 1880. At that time he built a small frame house, which is the wing of the present residence, and for three years lived a bachelor life. On July 23, 1883, he married Mary Gludt, daughter of John and Annie Gludt of Lake City. She was born in Iowa, August 26, 1863, and came with her parents to Reed's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., when two years old, in 1873 moving with them to Lake City, where her father engaged in the hotel business. Mr. Schmidt followed agricultural pursuits for 33 years on the same farm, and had a successful career. His early education was limited, but in his boyhood he acquired those habits of industry which were responsible for his success, at an early age driving the oxen which pulled the breaking plow for many days, weeks and months; also sometimes driving the ox team hitched to the old-fashioned two-wheeled cart which creaked so as to be heard a mile away. In later years he supplied himself with good modern machinery and equipment, adopting all improved methods of agriculture as fast as they were introduced. In 1916 he retired from active work, leasing the farm to his six sons. It is well stocked with a good grade of horses, cattle and swine, and has three sets of buildings. The situation on the table-land commands a fine view of the Mississippi river. Missouri bluffs.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt have had a family of nine children: Harry Leroy, born July 5, 1884; Ethel May, September 10, 1885; Gertrude Frances, July 25, 1887; Fred Joseph, August 27, 1889; Clarence William, June 28, 1891; Arthur Louis, July 25, 1893; Irene Mary, November 27, 1895; George Allan, February 28, 1898; and Edward Albert, May 18, 1900. Harry Leroy, now residing on a part of the home farm, was married October 3, 1912, to Augusta, daughter of George and Augusta Kuhfus, of West Albany Township, and has three children: Florence Augusta, born August 10, 1913; William Leroy, born November 4, 1916, and Mildred Marie, born August 27, 1918. Ethel May is the wife of Jacob Meyers, a farmer of Pepin Township. Gertrude Frances died October 8, 1888; Fred Joseph, who lives in the old stone house built by his grandfather, and works 200 acres of the home farm, was married February 22, 1915, to Della, daughter of Frank and Lena Meyers, of Wabasha City. He has one child, James Frederick, born



January 28, 1917. Clarence William is residing on the home farm. Arthur Louis was one of the young men who served their country in the recent war. He was drafted August 6, 1918, and left Lake City for Jefferson Barracks; at St. Louis, Mo., remained there one week, and was then sent to Camp McArthur, Waco, Texas. He left there September 16 for Camp Merritt, N. J., and on September 23 sailed on the S. S. Gen. Grant for France, landing at St. Nazaire October 7; was assigned to the 116th Ammunition Train, and transferred to the 5th Division, known as the "Red Diamond." He saw service on the Meuse and at Luxemburg in that division until July 8, 1919; sailed from Brest for the United States on the S. S. Zelandier, landing at Brooklyn, N. Y., July 31, 1919, and was discharged at Camp Dodge, arriving home August 12, 1919. While abroad he was in Germany, Luxemburg, France, Belgium, Italy and the Alps country. He assisted in the burial at sea of 200 victims of the "flu," and was himself seriously ill from the same disease on the return voyage. Irene May, George Allan and Edward Albert, the three youngest children, are residing on the home farm. The family are members of St. Mary's parish, Lake City, Mr. Schmidt being a liberal supporter of the church.

**Gustave Benike**, now living retired in the village of Elgin, is a man with a good record as agriculturist and citizen. He was born in the province of Brandenburg, Germany, November 12, 1834, son of Ludwig and Anna (Draekarnt) Benike, who were natives of the same province. The year 1853 saw him on his way to America, and on his arrival in this country he located first in Marquette County, Wis., where he found employment at farm labor. In 1865 he came to Olmsted County, Minn., and bought 160 acres of partly wild land in section 23, Farmington Township. The task of developing it into a good farm was a long one, but Mr. Benike was the man to handle it, and he erected buildings, cultivated the soil, and added to his land area until he had 480 acres. There he farmed successfully until 1903, when he retired. Since then he has resided in Elgin, except for a brief period of two years during which he lived in Plainview. He is now living with his son William. Mr. Benike was married June 29, 1859, to Pauline Stresey, and in 1909 they celebrated their Golden Wedding. In the following year of 1910 she passed away, leaving behind the memory of a woman who had been faithful in all the duties of life. Mr. and Mrs. Benike were the parents of ten children, two of whom died in infancy. The others were: Tillie, now Mrs. August Stephen, of Plainview; Albert, a farmer in Olmsted County; William H., of Elgin; Bertha, now Mrs. Julius Stephen, and a resident of Bradley, S. D.; Emil, a resident of Owatonna, engaged in buying hides on the road; Edward, deceased; Louisa, who married Edward Hampel and lives in Farmington Township; and Laura, wife of Theodore Gerths, a butcher in Rochester.

**William H. Benike**, proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, at Elgin, is a man whose business career has been marked by energy and perseverance, and who seems to have found the right groove for the development of his native enterprise in the position he now occupies. He was born in Marquette County, Wis., October 24, 1863, son of Gustave and Pauline (Stresey) Benike. In 1865 he was brought to Olmsted County by his parents, who located in Farmington Township, and there he attended district school. Until he was 25 years old he remained on his parents' farm, acquiring a practical knowledge of agriculture. Then he started farming on his own account, buying an 80-acre farm in Farmington Township which had but poor and limited improvements. He rebuilt the house, erected barns and outbuildings, and by the purchase of 80 additional acres, doubled its area. After seven years on the place, crowded with work but crowned with success, he sold it and went to Potsdam, a village in the same township, where for 18 years he conducted a hotel and saloon. At the end of that time he sold out and moved to Elgin Village, where in 1911 he built his first residence, and sold it to Ferd. Hample; one year after he built another and sold to Henry Werner. During the next five years he traveled through Minne-



sota, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota and Montana, conducting a merry-go-round, for one year of this time being with the T. I. Cash Carnival Co. Then returning to Elgin, he built the Commercial Hotel, of which he has since been proprietor. It is one of the best little hotels in southeastern Minnesota, built of brick and tile, with full basement, and provided with a large and pleasant office, lighted through two large plate glass windows on the side of the main street, one window light measuring 9 by 10 feet, and the other 9 by 11 feet. The office is neatly finished with oak fixtures, and furnished with swivel chairs, comfortable to the tired traveling man. The hotel contains 14 rooms upstairs, neat, clean and sanitary, with bath and toilet on the upstairs floor. The best commercial rooms are furnished with hot and cold running water, are all heated and are always warm and comfortable. In fact, everything is homelike from the basement to the garret, while Mr. and Mrs. Benike are sociable and accommodating in every way. The hotel is noted for its hospitality and its "good eats." While living in Farmington Township, Mr. Benike served on the town board and was constable at Potsdam for seven years. Mr. Benike was married, December 6, 1888, to Ida C. Reinke, who was born in Elgin Township, August 30, 1868, daughter of Charles and Augusta (Breise) Reinke. He and his wife are the parents of five children: Theodore, born November 8, 1890; Oscar, October 28, 1891; Alvin, April 11, 1896; Violet, June 12, 1901, and Leonard, December 28, 1907. Theodore, who resides in Minneapolis, married Lydia Dunbar of Isanti County, Minn. Oscar, who is now a carpenter in Rochester, Minn., married Helen Reiter of Wabasha County, and has one child, Margaret. Alvin is a carpenter and joiner. Violet is the wife of Earl Lehnertz of Plainview, Minn., and lives in Milwaukee. Leonard is residing at home with his parents. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

**George W. Baker**, manager of the Bottsford lumberyard at Elgin, was born at Blue Earth, Minn., August 15, 1888, son of Fremont and Rhoda (Robinson) Baker. The father was a mason by trade, came to Minnesota from Indiana about 1858, the time when Minnesota became a state. After following his trade for a number of years, he engaged in farming in Martin County, and is now in the same line of occupation at Pine City, Pine County. He and his wife, who is still living, have been the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters: William H., residing at Pine City; Hazel, who married Sam Warner and lives in Minneapolis; Mona, wife of Fred Warner, residing on a farm; Mamie, wife of Will Schubert, living on a farm at Moneta, Ia.; Gordon L., of Pine City, and George W. of Elgin. George W. Baker acquired his elementary education in the district school and was graduated in 1907 from Sherburn high school. He worked on his parents' farm and also taught three terms of district school, after which he took a commercial course in a business college at Mankato, Minn. In 1911 he entered the employ of the Bottsford Lumber Company, and for three months was stationed at Jackson, Minn. After that he spent nine months in the company's yard at Wauseca, then four and a half years at Rochester, then a year at Sherburn as manager, coming to Elgin in the same capacity January 22, 1919. Mr. Baker saw service in the world war, enlisting in the Signal Corps of the United States army at Sherburn, and serving eleven months in the West, being located at Vancouver Barracks. He received an honorable discharge December 29, 1919, shortly before he came to Elgin. He is a member and vice president of Post No. 179 of the American Legion, which has about 200 members. He also belongs to the Masonic order and the Odd Fellows.

**Frank and John Howe**, who are engaged in the implement business and other lines of industry in Kellogg, were born in Glasgow Township, this county, sons of Jacob and Katherine Howe. The father, a native of Germany, came to Wabasha County, Minn., at an early day with his parents, being only four years old at the time. He has since resided in Glasgow and Highland townships, and is now well to do. He and his wife Katherine, who was born in Highland



Township, were married in this county. They have had six children, Frank, John, Andrew, Matilda, Ed and Apolona, all of whom are now living. Ed enlisted in the United States' service and took part in the world war, serving eight months in France in the Second Headquarters Division. Andrew also enlisted, his service, however, being in this country. Frank and John Howe, the direct subjects of this sketch, were reared on their parents' farm and worked on it till May, 1918, when they came to Kellogg and engaged in the implement business, handling everything in the lines of machinery, wagons and buggies. They also operate a well driller, and have done saw mill work for John Dietz of Cameron Dam fame. They own the property which they now occupy, and with their father are also the owners of 1,000 acres of land in Wabasha County. Their business is prospering and they enjoy an increasing trade. Both were educated in the district schools and are members of the Woodmen's lodge. In religion they are Catholics.

**Diedrich Fitschen**, one of the self-made men of Wabasha County, proprietor of a fine 235-acre farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, November 18, 1868, son of Fredrick and Anna (Rigger) Fitschen. He had a somewhat limited education in his native land, where he remained until 1885, when he came to the United States, and directly to Wabasha County, Minn. For nine years he worked as a farm hand in Wabasha and Goodhue Counties, practicing economy and saving his money with an eye to the future. At the time he was ready to start in for himself he chose a life partner in the person of Anne Marie Mojen, daughter of Christopher and Engel Mojen, who had come with her parents from Hanover, Germany, in 1891; and at the same time he rented the Moren farm in Lake Township. There he and his family remained for five years, and then in the fall of 1897 Mr. Fitschen bought 160 acres in Gilbert Valley, section 3, Mt. Pleasant Township, five miles west of Lake City, the same being the farm on which he now resides. He has, however, increased its size, by an additional purchase of adjoining land, to 235 acres, and as the soil is rich it is a fine agricultural property. Mr. Fitschen has improved it by the erection of new buildings, including a comfortable, eight-room, two-story house; a barn 36 by 60 by 16 feet, with full stone basement of eight feet; a granary, machine shed, two double corn cribs, poultry house, and a steel windmill. He has 90 acres under the plow, the rest of the land being in pasture and timber, and his tools and equipment are fully adequate to all purposes of modern farming, which Mr. Fitschen follows in its various branches. He is improving his Shorthorn cattle and Chester-White swine by the use of full-blooded sires, and achieving good results, with a resultant prosperity that marks him as one of the successful men of his township. As he began with nothing this success is the more to his credit. Politically he is a Republican, and has served as clerk of the school board of District No. 8 for 20 years. Mr. and Mrs. Fitschen are the parents of five children: Emma Catherine, born November 15, 1893, who is residing on the home farm; Anna Catherine, born December 12, 1895, now the wife of John Hinck of Mt. Pleasant Township; Frederick William, born October 24, 1898, who is assisting his father to operate the home farm; Minnie Matilda, born June 23, 1901, and Freda Meta, born June 23, 1908, who are residing at home. The family are members of St. John's congregation at Lake City.

**John Keating**, one of the earliest settlers in Watopa Township, and a resident of Wabasha County for 46 years, but now deceased, was born in County Kerry, Ireland. He emigrated to America when a young man, and was married in Hartford, Conn., to Margaret Twomey. After a residence of some time in Hartford, they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1856, settling on 80 acres of land in Watopa Township, which they later homesteaded, also buying another 80 acres adjoining. On that farm John Keating spent the rest of his life, which came to an end on October 4, 1902. He had made a good record as an industrious and useful citizen, and had served as supervisor and in other town offices.





DIEDRICH FITSCHEN AND FAMILY







His widow remained on the farm until 1905, when she took up her residence in Kellogg, where she passed away July 1, 1915. They had seven children: James, Thomas, Margaret, Kate, John, William and Mary. James, who served as school superintendent, and was for some time editor of the Wabasha Herald, died in 1916. The others are still living, and the old homestead is still owned in the family.

**John R. Keating**, a well known and prosperous merchant of Kellogg, where he is engaged in the implement business, was born in Watopa Township, this county, September 28, 1872, son of John and Margaret Keating. The scene of his birth was the pioneer home of his parents, who had settled in the township as early as 1856. Before he appeared to play his part on this earthly stage, district schools had been established, and his attempts to master "the three R's" were made in that belonging to District No. 34, where he acquired enough scholastic knowledge for the ordinary purposes of life. Much of that life has been spent in the important industry of agriculture, as he resided and worked on the home farm until 1909, when he came to this village, having been appointed boiler inspector by Governor Johnson, a position in which he served four years. At the end of that period he engaged in his present business, handling all kinds of farm implements, also wagons and buggies, in which line of industry he has built up a good trade. He has also had experience as a public official, as he was chairman of the Watopa town board for eight years, and justice of the peace in Kellogg two years. He is a member of the Catholic church, and a citizen of high business and personal reputation.

**Jacob Howe**, a leading farmer, extensive land owner and public official of Highland Township, was born in Germany, January 16, 1857, son of John and Susan (Leisen) Howe. The parents were natives of Germany, where they were married. On coming to the United States in 1857 they settled first in Iowa, in which state they remained four years. At the end of that time they came to Wabasha County, Minn., taking a homestead of 160 acres in Glasgow Township. The land was wild and covered with timber, and as there were no buildings John Howe's first task was to build a log house. That accomplished, he entered upon the work of clearing his land, in which he was aided by his wife and sons, and which he kept up until his death in 1873. After that Mrs. Howe and her sons continued the work together until her death in 1880. The farm then came into possession of the son Jacob, who has since remained the owner. With untiring industry and enterprise, he has continued to make improvements, and has increased his landed possessions by successive purchases, until he now owns over 900 acres, two-thirds of which is tillable, the rest being in timber and pasture. Of the tillable land he farms 100 acres, the rest being rented and seeded down. Mr. Howe carries on general farming, including stock raising and dairying, keeping from 25 to 30 cattle. He also has a herd of fifty or more sheep and some swine of mixed breeds. In 1894 he moved to section 2, Highland, and erected his present frame residence of eleven rooms, which is electrically lighted, and the kitchen provided with running water. He has two good barns, one for horses and the other for cattle and hogs, and both these and the other outbuildings are substantial structures in good condition. Aside from his direct farming interests, he is a stockholder in the local telephone company and in the Kellogg co-operative store. Though a busy man, Mr. Howe has devoted some part of his time to the public service. For 30 years he has been school clerk of his district, and for several years town clerk and justice of the peace, and is a man who enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. Mr. Howe was united in marriage February 10, 1879, with Catherine Shouweiler, daughter of Frank and Eva (Lehnertz) Shouweiler. Her parents were natives of Germany, the father born in Lumburg and the mother in Prussia. They came to the United States in 1857, settling on a farm in Highland Township, this county, and for the remainder of their lives were engaged in agriculture. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Howe are the



parents of six children: Frank, a resident of Kellogg; John, also residing in Kellogg, where he is engaged in the implement business; Matilda, wife of Bartley Schouweiler, of Highland Township; Andrew M., who is engaged in a printing and electrical supply business in Kellogg; Edward P., who is assisting his father on the home farm; and Appolonia C., also residing at home with her parents. In the family of John and Susan Howe, the parents of Jacob, there were seven children—five sons and two daughters—and five of these children are now living, namely: George, a resident of Wabasha; Elizabeth, who is the widow of Peter Schilling, of Plainview; Peter, president of the State Bank of Kellogg; John, of Waudena, Minn.; and Jacob, the subject of this sketch. The two deceased are Mary, who was the wife of John Plein, of Watopa, and Mathias.

**Andrew C. McDonough**, a well known farmer and stock raiser of Highland Township, is a native of this county and comes of pioneer ancestry, having been born in Highland Township, February 24, 1865, son of Patrick and Julia (Lydon) McDonough. The parents were natives of Ireland, where they grew up and were married. They came to the United States in the fall of 1848 and resided successively in several eastern states, Patrick McDonough being engaged in railroad construction work. In 1854 they set out for St. Paul, Minn., making a part of their journey up the Mississippi river on a steamboat, which was unable to pass through Lake Pepin on account of ice, and the McDonoughs, therefore, disembarked at Read's Landing, and took land in Cook's Valley, at the locality now known as McDonough's Springs, Highland Township. The history of their pioneer experiences is told elsewhere in this volume. They were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are now living. Andrew C. McDonough was reared on his parents' farm and acquired his education in district school No. 37. He worked on the home farm until 1890, the year of his marriage, and then for two years was engaged in farming on his father-in-law's place. Afterwards he returned to the home farm, which his father gave him before he died, and he now has 140 acres, of which he himself purchased forty acres. He is carrying on general farming operations, raising cattle, hogs and sheep. Of the sheep, which are of the Shropshire breed, he keeps from 50 to 100. Mr. McDonough has taken an active part as a citizen, has been clerk of his school district for ten years and served three years as town assessor. He is a Catholic in religion, belonging to Conception parish, and is also a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus. On October 21, 1890, Mr. McDonough was united in marriage with Mary Bricher, daughter of John and Mary (Schiertz) Bricher, their union being solemnized in Conception Catholic church. Her father was born in Luxemburg and her mother in Minnesota. Their occupation was that of farming. Their family numbered ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom are living, namely: Eliza, wife of J. N. Klein, of Kellogg; Susan, who married Thomas Lydon and is now a widow; Anna, widow of C. C. Lydon; Katherine, who married John Schneider, of Pasadena, Calif.; Joseph, of Cottage Grove, Ore.; John D., who is with the Lydon-Bricher Manufacturing Co. of St. Paul; Christ C., residing in the same city; Nicholas, cashier in the State Bank of Theilman; and Mary, wife of Andrew C. McDonough. Mr. and Mrs. McDonough have six children, all living: Alfred, of Theilman, and Viola, Eugene, Myrtle, Marion and Lloyd, residing at home.

**Thomas E. McDonough**, who is engaged in agricultural operations in Highland Township, residing in section 11, was born at McDonough Spring, in Cook's Valley, this township, December 30, 1860, son of Patrick and Julia (Lydon) McDonough. The parents were pioneers of this county whose history is elsewhere narrated. Thomas E. was brought up on the home farm and in his boyhood attended district school No. 37. He remained at home working on the farm until 27 years old, at which time he began farming for himself on 80 acres in section 11, Highland, which he had received from his father in









PATRICK McDONOUGH: FOUR GENERATIONS



payment for services on the home farm. This land was mostly covered with timber, which he cleared, also erecting the buildings. The farm now contains 120 acres, with 65 under cultivation, the rest being in pasture and timber. Mr. McDonough carries on diversified farming, including stock raising and dairying. He is doing a prosperous business, due to his energy and practical knowledge of agriculture in all its branches. In religion he is a Catholic, and fraternally a member of the Woodmen and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Mr. McDonough was married in 1898 at Wabasha to Margaret Keating, daughter of John and Margaret (Thoma) Keating. Her parents, natives of Ireland, came to the United States in 1858, and later to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling on a farm on Snake Creek in Watopa Township, where they made their home until they died. They had seven children, John, William, Kate, Mary, James, Thomas E. and Margaret, all of whom are now living but James. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. McDonough have had four children, of whom three are now living, Joseph, Delbert and Lester, who resides on the home farm. Their other child died in infancy.

**Patrick McDonough**, a notable pioneer of Wabasha County, who settled in Highland Township among the earliest arrivals, was born in Galway, Ireland, about the year 1817, and died on his farm in that township in 1917, having rounded out a century of existence. His early years were spent in his native land, where he grew up and married Julia Lydon. In the fall of 1848 they sailed for the United States, landing at New York November 1. For about six years after arriving in this country Mr. McDonough was engaged in railroad construction work for the Baltimore & Ohio and Pittsburgh & Wheeling railroads, residing successively in Vermont, Ohio and West Virginia, the last mentioned state then being a part of Virginia. In 1854 Mr. McDonough and his family joined the tide of emigration to Minnesota, and on reaching the Mississippi took a steamboat bound up the river, intending to go to St. Paul, but when they got as far as Reed's Landing it was found that Lake Pepin was blocked with ice and navigation closed, so they made a virtue of necessity and landed. After examining the prospect and hearing reports of the surrounding country, Mr. McDonough located as a squatter on a tract of land in Cook's Valley, Highland Township, at what is now known as McDonough's Springs. Minnesota was then a territory, but in 1858 it became a state, and a few years later he homesteaded his property, obtaining a legal title. Subsequently he bought more land until he had 400 acres. The first dwelling of himself and family was a small log structure, which at one time was occupied by four or five Irish families who had come from Galway and settled in the township, which was then a wilderness with few white inhabitants. Indians were numerous, but were friendly, and never gave the McDonoughs any trouble, though for a few years there was some timidity in regard to them, especially among the women, but with the increase of white settlers this feeling passed away. When Mr. McDonough squatted on his claim, so far as he knew there was no other white man or family to the west of him. Neither were there any roads or bridges, and the streams had to be forded. He was advised never to cross the Zumbro, as the land to the west would never be civilized, but he did cross and was not molested by the Indians. Though he had some money, most of the necessities of life were hard to get, as there were no stores nearer than Wabasha, twelve miles away. There he and his wife did their trading, Mrs. McDonough carrying eggs to market in a basket, and he bringing home bags of flour and groceries on his back. These expeditions were long, hard and tiresome tramps, but they belonged to the life of the pioneer and could not be evaded. Moreover they furnished some relief to the monotony of the daily routine of grubbing and breaking land, and at Wabasha an occasional steamboat was seen, and new arrivals greeted and given free advice. At one time Mr. McDonough was offered the entire townsite of Lake City for \$400, but he declined the offer, as he thought the land contained too much sand. His entire



life, after coming to this county, was spent on the farm on which he first settled, and he kept improving it, with the aid of his sons, as long as his years permitted him to labor. After his retirement he enjoyed a well earned leisure in the society of his children, and of his faithful and loving wife until her death at the age of 85 years in 1909. He had performed a worthy part as one of the builders of Wabasha County, and as such will long be remembered. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McDonough were the parents of twelve children: Patrick, John, Bridget, Bartley, Daniel, Maria, Anna, Thomas, Coleman C., Andrew, Julia and James. James died in infancy, and Patrick, Bridget, Maria and Anna are also deceased. John and Coleman C. are residents of Kellogg; Bartley resides in the state of Washington; Daniel in Alberta, Canada; Thomas and Andrew in Highland Township, this county; and Julia is the wife of William Keating, of Lodora, Idaho.

**Coleman C. McDonough**, a well known and popular merchant of Kellogg, where he is engaged in the produce business, and who in former years rendered efficient service in public office, was born on the pioneer farm of his parents, in the town of Highland, this county, December 14, 1863, son of Patrick and Julia (Lydon) McDonough. He acquired his elementary education in the district school, after one had been established in his neighborhood, and subsequently attended the State Normal School at Winona, from which he received a teacher's certificate. Thus equipped and authorized, he followed the occupation of teacher in district schools for about five years. After that he became bookkeeper for the Wabasha Lumber Company, remaining in their employ for four years. During this time he had become well known and acquired such popularity that in 1896 he was elected registrar of deeds for the county, and held that position four years, and from 1902 to 1906 he served as county commissioner. In 1893 Mr. McDonough engaged in the general mercantile business with John Costello, under the firm name of John Costello & Co., but in 1909 sold out his interest and engaged in the lumber business, but within a year he sold out his interest in that also and entered the employ of the International Harvester Company, with which concern he continued until 1912. He then entered into the produce business, and for the last five years has been manager for the R. E. Jones Company, dealers in grain and produce, a position in which he has shown good business capacity and enterprise. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and is respected as a useful citizen of proved Americanism. Mr. McDonough was married, in Highland Township, October 10, 1893, to Mary A. McNallan, daughter of James and Margaret McNallan. Her parents, who were born in Ireland, are both now deceased. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McDonough, four sons and four daughters, namely: Elmer, Leo, Margaret, Agnes, Francis, Helen, Lorette and Dominick. All are living except Elmer, who gave his life for his country in the recent war with Germany. He enlisted in August, 1917, as a member of the 151st Regiment, and was one of the first men in this state to leave for France; where he got into action in February, 1918, and was killed in battle on the Toul sector, March 6. His brother Leo also fought in the war, serving 18 months with the 318th Engineers in the Argonne and at Sedan and Verdun, being discharged with the rank of corporal in June, 1919. Thus two of Mr. McDonough's sons have helped to make world history, showing that patriotic devotion which has made this country great and strong. Of him who fell a tender memory will forever remain in the hearts of his friends.

**Stephen Appel**, one of the early settlers and developers of Highland Township, now passed away, was born in Germany and came to this country with his mother when twelve years old, settling in Pennsylvania. In 1859, as a young man, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, after reaching La Crosse, Wis., making the journey on foot to Wabasha County. Here he homesteaded 160 acres of land in section 9, Highland Township, the tract being partly prairie and partly timber land, and without improvements. The Indians were



quite numerous in the vicinity, but gave him no trouble. He met with one early discouragement, however, after building his first residence, a small one-room house. He was baking bread one day, when the house caught fire and burned down, all the money he had, about \$15, being consumed in the flames. He replaced the building with a larger house, which now forms a part of the present residence, occupied by his son, Frank J. The rest of his life was spent on the farm, where he followed general farming, and he died in 1914. In the seventies he bought what was known as the Watkins Mill, which he operated as a grist mill for many years, it becoming known as the Appel Mill. He was a public spirited citizen of his township, serving as a member and clerk of the board of supervisors, and as a member of the school board. He was an advocate of good roads and of everything else calculated to benefit the community in which he lived. Mr. Appel married Elizabeth Hillenbrandt, who also was a native of Germany, their marriage being celebrated in Wabasha village. They spent fifty years of happy wedded life together and in 1913 celebrated their golden wedding. Mrs. Elizabeth Appel survived her husband about six years, dying in 1920. Of their family of eleven children, eight are now living: Katie, wife of John McMillin, of Theilman; John A., a farmer in Plainview Township; William, who is now in San Francisco; Edward and August, who reside at Metaline Falls, Washington; Ida, wife of Arthur Melzner; Amanda, residing at Butte, Mont., and Frank J., the present proprietor of the old homestead in Highland Township. Of the three children deceased, Louis died when a baby, Stephen, Jr., died of influenza in 1919, and Elizabeth, who married Gordon Campbell, of the state of Washington, died in 1919. All are buried in the family lot in Conception Cemetery.

**Frank J. Appel**, a well known and prosperous farmer of Highland Township, proprietor of the old Appel farm established by his parents at an early date in the history of this county, was born on this farm, located in section 9, November 7, 1874, son of Stephen and Elizabeth (Hillenbrandt) Appel. He has always resided on the homestead and in his boyhood attended the local school. Subsequently he took a course in the agricultural department of Minnesota University. For a number of years he was engaged in assisting his father, both on the farm and in the latter's grist mill. After the father's death he bought the homestead, where he is profitably carrying on general farming and stock raising. Active as a citizen, he has been town clerk of Highland for seventeen years, and a member of the school board for some years. He has also served eight years as secretary of the Plainview Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Co., and was formerly president of the Plainview Telephone Co. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Woodmen and the Equitable Fraternal Union, also to the Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers' Association. Mr. Appel was married at Quincy, Ill., October 28, 1903, to Margaret King, daughter of Thomas and Ellen (Smyth) King, the parents being natives of Ireland who came early to the United States, settling in Quincy, Ill., where they spent the rest of their lives. They had seven children, five of whom grew to maturity. Mr. and Mrs. Appel are the parents of three children: Frances M., Elizabeth M. D., and Lawrence L., all living at home, and the daughters attending the high school at Wabasha. Mr. Appel and his family are members of the Catholic church.

**Henry T. Fuller**, a prominent representative of the agricultural industry in Watopa Township, was born in Mankato, Minn., June 17, 1855, son of Timothy and Josephine (Cratt) Fuller. The father was a native of New Hampshire who came west in 1852, settling in Wabasha County, Minnesota, where he worked for the government, running a store at Traverse De Sue for two years, and afterwards conducting one for himself. Finally selling out in that place, he returned to Wabasha village, where he operated a store and saloon until 1860, when he again sold out. After that he was employed at the carpenter's trade until 1896, when his activities were brought to a close by his

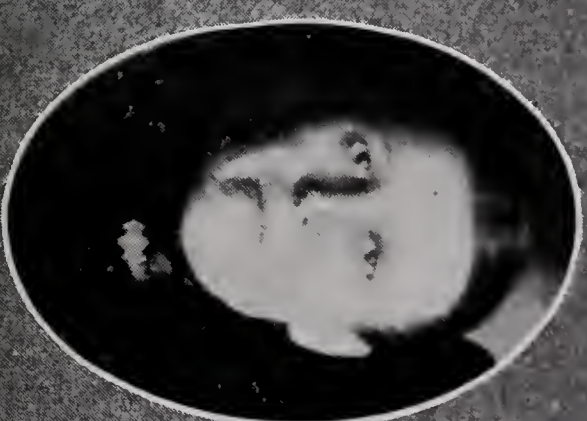


breaking his hip. He died in Wabasha in 1901, having then been a widower for 24 years. He and his wife had eight children, Henry T., Frank B., Lenora T., Martha, Dave, Mary, Charles and Rebecca. Lenora and Martha are deceased. Henry T. Fuller was educated in the district school. He remained at home until the death of his mother in 1877, and then helped his father, working at the carpenter's trade. After that he operated a rented farm for seven years in West Albany Township, and at the end of that period bought his present farm of 280 acres in sections 10, 15, 16 and 17, Watopa Township, on which he is profitably engaged in general farming and stock raising. His improvements on the place include the erection of a barn 42 by 56 feet, besides repairing the other buildings and fencing. He is a member of the Episcopal church. On February 13, 1883, Mr. Fuller was united in marriage with Matilda Burns, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Burns. Her parents were natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1853, settling in the town of Zumbro, this county, where they farmed for a number of years. Later for 25 years they conducted a hotel in Millville. Mr. Burns died May 16, 1918, and Mrs. Burns August 17, 1905. Their children, five in number, were John, Emma, Matilda, Minnie and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller have been the parents of eleven children, who were born as follows: John H., May 8, 1884; Josephine S., April 10, 1886; Harry H., September 29, 1888; Elmer C., October 17, 1890; Ervin M., November 8, 1892; Mary C., December 5, 1894; Dave T., September 30, 1896; Lenora M., May 26, 1900; William E., December 20, 1903; Ethel B., August 17, 1907; and Viola G., July 12, 1908. Josephine S. is now the wife of Harry Maginnis. Harry H. was drafted for service in the war with Germany, September 19, 1917, on the first draft, and became a member of the 464th Engineers' Pontoon Train. He sailed for France August 9, 1918, and died from accident, February 7, 1919, being buried in France. Mary C. is the wife of George Kleiber. Dave F. was drafted for war service June 24, 1918, but failed to pass the physical examination at Camp Grant. Lenora M. is now Mrs. Bernard Sheehan.

**Henry Peter Juers**, a successful and well known farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township, whose farm and residence is located in section 29, was born on this same farm, December 23, 1883, son of Peter and Catherine Juers. His parents, who came from Germany, were early settlers in this locality. He acquired his elementary education in the district school, and during the winter of 1902-3 attended the Lake City Business College. He then entered the employ of Kemp & Roschen, general merchants of Lake City, and was with them until 1912. Then returning to the home farm, he took up its operation and has since made good progress as a general farmer, working hard and having the satisfaction of seeing his bank account grow from year to year. The farm contains 240 acres, 210 acres of the land, which is very fertile, being under cultivation. It also possesses a fine set of buildings, the house being a substantial frame structure of two stories, and in addition to his operating equipment Mr. Juers owns a fine Cleveland touring car. His cattle are of the Shorthorn breed, the herd numbering from 30 to 35 head, and he milks on an average of nine cows. He has also a good herd of 25 to 30 swine. Aside from his interests in the farm, he is a stockholder in the Oak Center Creamery, the Farmers' Elevator at Lake City, the Farmers' Terminal Packing Co. of St. Paul, and the Goodhue County Co-operative stores. He is also a member of the Lake City Shipping Association. On September 4, 1906, Mr. Juers was united in marriage with Anna M., daughter of David and Anna (Thomford) Holzworth, of Brownsville, Houston County, Minn. He and his wife have one child, Elmer Peter, who was born November 28, 1907, and is now helping his father on the farm. The family are members of the Lutheran congregation at Belvidere, Goodhue County. Politically Mr. Juers is a Republican, though of broad tendencies, as he exercises his right to cast his vote for the best man, regardless of party.

**Daniel B. Lydon**, the popular postmaster at Kellogg, which position he has occupied for the last five years, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha.





HENRY P. JUERS AND FAMILY, MR. AND MRS. PETER JUERS, MR. AND MRS. DAVID HOLZWARTH







County, Minn., March 9, 1859, son of Coleman and Honora (McDonough) Lydon. The parents were natives of Galway, Ireland, and were married at Hastings, Minn., Coleman Lydon having come to this country with other immigrants and settlers in Wabasha County, including the McDonoughs and Costellos. After their marriage he and his wife engaged in farming in Highland Township, this county, but subsequently homesteaded a quarter section in Watopa Township, where they farmed for many years. Their last years they spent in Kellogg, where Coleman Lydon died in 1904, and his wife in 1907. They had twelve children: Mary, Daniel B., Bartley, Patrick, Coleman, Nora, Mary (second), Bartley (second), Anna, Edward, James and Thomas. Those now living are: Edward, a resident of St. Paul; Daniel B., of Kellogg; Patrick, of Maxwell, Colo.; Anna, wife of J. D. McDonough, of St. Paul; and Nora, wife of Edward McDonough, of California. Daniel B. Lydon spent his early youth on his parents' farm, where he learned habits of industry, and attended District School No. 69, Watopa Township. After leaving school he spent six years in travel. He then began teaching district school, an occupation which he pursued for 20 years, gaining a reputation as an excellent teacher. For a year subsequently he acted as janitor for the Kellogg school, at the same time serving on the school board, and he was thus engaged when he was appointed postmaster of Kellogg, January 26, 1915. He is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Lydon was married, October 21, 1890, to Mary E. Galway, daughter of Patrick and Margaret Galway. Her father was a native of Ireland and her mother of Massachusetts, and for a number of years after their marriage were farmers in Highland and Watopa Townships, this county. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Lydon have been the parents of eleven children, Frank, Mary, James, Joseph, Alberta, Vincinza, Veronica, Catherine, Rose, Eileen and Patrick, all of whom are living, except Joseph, who died in infancy. Mary is a teacher in the convent at Portsmouth, Ohio, and is known as Sister Arthur. Vincinza is in the convent at Rochester, Minn., her adopted name being Mary Maud. Frank and James enlisted in the service of the United States during the recent war, and served in this country, Frank for 13 months and James for five months, thus evincing a laudable patriotism, a quality in which no member of the family is deficient.

**Otto H. Gaebe**, proprietor of the Millville Creamery, where he is successfully engaged in the manufacture of butter and ice cream, was born in Addieville, Washington County, Ill., September 19, 1885, son of William and Dorothy (Detring) Gaebe. The parents were natives of Germany who came to America with their parents, the father at the age of 16 and the mother at that of twelve. They settled in Illinois. After the breaking out of the Civil War in 1861, William Gaebe, then 19 years old, enlisted on President Lincoln's first call for 120,000 men, in the Ninth Illinois regiment. He served three years with Grant's army, was wounded at Shiloh, and took part in other engagements. After returning home he engaged in farming and subsequently conducted a general store. About the year 1900 he moved to North Dakota, in which state he died in 1912. His wife is still living. They had twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, nine of whom are living, namely: Henry, Christ, John, Edward, Frank, Otto, Minnie, Carrie, and Mollie. Minnie is the wife of Henry Nadtler and lives in North Dakota. Carrie, who is the wife of William Lehdey, and Mollie, who is the wife of Fred Tellmann, also reside in that state. Those deceased are William, Fred and Lydia. The mother now lives with her son Frank at New Salem, N. D. Otto H. Gaebe was reared on his parents' farm in Illinois, where he attended district school. He went with the family to North Dakota, and for a number of years remained on the home farm there. At the age of twenty he found employment in the creamery at New Salem, N. D., and liking this occupation, he resolved to perfect himself in the business, and accordingly took a course in the Wisconsin Dairy School at Madison, where he learned butter-making. On April 12, 1919, he came to Millville, and bought the



Millville Creamery. In the winter of 1919-20 he took a course in ice-cream making at the University of Minnesota, and in addition to butter-making, he now manufactures ice cream for the trade in the surrounding towns. He has established himself on a firm business footing and is making satisfactory progress. Mr. Gaebe was married in Addieville, Illinois, in 1907, to Minnie Garlich, daughter of Rudolph and Mary Garlich, her parents being natives of Illinois but of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Gaebe have three children, Dorothy, Ralph and Verna, all residing at home.

**Patrick Henry Rahilly**, whose active walk, kindly greeting and hearty handshake still do much to enliven the daily routine of Wabasha County, despite his near approach to a full score years beyond the allotted three score and ten, has been blessed with the companionship and friendship of many notable empire builders, statesmen and social and religious leaders during the last half of the eighteenth and the first two decades of the nineteenth centuries. His own share in the foundation and development of the county, state and the great Northwest is evidenced in many various directions. The eldest son of Matthew and Mary (Lynch) Rahilly, he was born on March 8, 1832, on a farm near Limerick, County of Limerick, Ireland. After school days passed in and near Limerick and in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, where the family settled, he joined the pioneers in what was then the great and almost unknown West, arriving at Rochester, Minnesota, in the early fifties, at a time when what is now the city of Rochester consisted of one log cabin. Having pre-empted a quarter section of land in section 22, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, he undertook what was in those days the long and arduous journey to New York State where, on August 23, 1860, he married Catherine, the daughter of James and Jane Norton, who was born in County Galway, Ireland, and who thenceforward shared with him the hardships and the triumphs of pioneering in the great Northwest. By industry, economy, unusual foresight and good judgment they succeeded in establishing one of the largest, most modern and best improved farms in the country. Mr. and Mrs. Rahilly were blessed with seven children and seven grandchildren: Mary, Jennie I., Mary E., James M., Catherine A., Margaret R. and John T. Two of the grandchildren, Louis and Eugene P. McCahill, enlisted in the World War, the former, in the Motor Corps, having made the supreme sacrifice in France six days before the signing of the Armistice; the latter serving in the Naval Aviation Corps. After the death of Mrs. Rahilly, July 12, 1910, Mr. Rahilly disposed of the beautiful country home to his daughter, Mary E. (Mrs. James McCahill), who occupies it as her summer home, and removed to his residence on Oak street, in Lake City, where, respected and admired by the thousands of his acquaintances and friends, he still attends to the details of his many varied interests. Always active as a member of the Democratic party, he was elected to the Legislature in 1872, serving three terms as Representative and two terms in the Senate, and, in 1875, as candidate for State Auditor, carried the strong Republican county of Wabasha, and though running ahead of his ticket throughout the state, was defeated in that overwhelming Republican year. Always prominent in the affairs of the Knights of Columbus, of which he is the oldest member in Minnesota, he visited Europe in 1910 and at Rome was kindly received by the Holy Pontiff. Mr. Rahilly's life, past and present, is an exemplification of what can be accomplished by sterling integrity, tireless industry, frugality, constant study and continuous application. Never too occupied for a social chat or a business engagement, his life has been and is an inspiration to the younger men of the community which he has helped found and develop in and around Wabasha County.

**Herman Engel**, a prominent farmer of Elgin Township, and the present chairman of the town board, was born at Oakridge, Winona County, October 19, 1874, son of Fred and Johanna (Holst) Engel. Fred Engel, the father, was a native of Mecklenburg, Germany, and came to America in 1873, locating at











Fountain City, Wis., where he remained during the winter. In 1875 he bought 80 acres of land in Winona County, Minnesota, in Mt. Vernon Township, and was there engaged in farming until 1881. In that year he bought 160 acres in section 4, Whitewater Township, that county, on which tract he erected the entire set of buildings himself. As a general farmer he continued to prosper until his death on August 26, 1896. He was married in November, 1873, to Johanna Holst, also a native of Germany, and they had six children: Herman, of Elgin Township; Edward, who died October 19, 1918; William, a resident of Elgin; Freda, who died in 1893; Minnie, now Mrs. Henry Ott, of Plano, Ill.; and Henry, who is a merchant in Stockton, Minn. Herman Engel acquired his education in the Hoosier Ridge District School, Winona County. After becoming industrially active, he worked on farms in that vicinity until 1895, after which, on account of his father's illness, he was for two years at home. In 1897 he rented 80 acres in section 8, Plainview Township, and began farming for himself. He remained at that location until 1901, in which year he bought the 80-acre farm in section 24, on which he now resides. On this place he has erected a new house, barn, and outbuildings, and his land is well cultivated and productive. Mr. Engel was married, October 6, 1897, to Pauline Jacob, who was born October 19, 1874. He and his wife have been the parents of nine children, eight of whom are now living. The record in brief is as follows: Helen, born July 23, 1898, now Mrs. George Ihde, of Mansfield, S. D.; Laura, born September 26, 1899, now Mrs. Alfred Zimdars, of Winona, Minn.; Lydia, born January 4, 1901, now attending business college in Winona; Esther, born October 12, 1902; Edna, born July 3, 1905; Erwin, March 7, 1907; Mollie, February 13, 1909; Harold, born August 31, 1910, who died February 17, 1918; and Ardell, born August 1, 1912. Erwin, Mollie and Ardell are attending school. Esther and Edna are also residing at home. Mr. and Mrs. Engel and their family are members of the German Lutheran church. They are people of good standing in the community and have a wide circle of friends. He is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Elgin and in the Plainview Co-operative Creamery, and a member of the Elgin Shipping Association.

**Ralph W. Christopher**, a popular young business man of Millville, was born in this village, August 26, 1894, son of Ole and Bertha (French) Christopher. The father was a native of Norway and son of Christopher and Jane Christopher, who brought him to the United States at the age of seven years, in 1853. They first located in Iowa, from which state they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1859, taking land in Oakwood Township, where they engaged in farming. There Christopher spent the rest of his life. After his death his son Ole took charge of the farm, which he operated until 1894, since which time he has been living retired in Millville. He and his wife Bertha have been the parents of six children, of whom four are now living, Ralph in Millville, Edson in South Dakota, Jay in Minnesota City, Minn., and Bert in Revere, Minn. Ralph W. Christopher acquired a public school education and was reared on the home farm. After being thus employed for a time he became clerk in Frish & Engel's store in Millville, which position he held for seven years. Subsequently he worked six years for J. F. McGuigan, and at the end of that time, in 1919, opened his present confectionery and ice cream parlor, which is the only store of the kind in town, and enjoys a good trade. On June 15, 1917, he enlisted in the 311th Engineers, attached to the 86th Division in France, and served 16 months, during which time he was engaged in building bridges, roads, barracks, and other military constructions. He was honorably discharged July 8, 1918. His brother Edson enlisted in the United States service May 30, 1918, and also went to France, serving four months in the infantry. He was wounded in the Argonne and sent home with an honorable record. Ralph W. Christopher is a member of the American Legion. He resides with his father and mother in Millville, being as yet unmarried.

**Patrick J. Cosgrove**, cashier of the Millville State Bank, and village treasurer, was born in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., November 22,



1864, son of James and Mary (Behan) Cosgrove. The parents were natives of Ireland, but were married in Indiana, James Cosgrove having come to the United States in the late forties. In the spring of 1864 he and his wife came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and on arriving here bought a farm in Oakwood Township from Alexander McBride. There he was engaged in general farming and improving his property until his death in 1882. His wife survived him about ten years, passing away in 1908. They had six children, of whom James, Andrew and Mary are now deceased. Those living are: Elizabeth, wife of James McBride, and a resident of Keegan, Oakwood Township; Bridget, widow of Charles McNulty, and a resident of St. Paul; and Patrick J., the subject of this sketch. Patrick J. Cosgrove acquired his elementary education in the district school, and subsequently pursued more advanced studies in the Lake City high school. He then engaged in teaching, in which occupation he continued in Wabasha County for 20 years. In 1904, on the organization of the Millville State Bank, he became its cashier, a position which he still retains, and in which he has shown good business capacity, and has made many friends. He has served as trustee and president of the village, and is now its treasurer. A member of the Catholic church, he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus, the Red Men, and the Modern Woodmen. In politics he is independent. Mr. Cosgrove was married at West Albany, this county, in 1900, to Nellie T. McGuigan, daughter of James and Julia McGuigan, who were among the early settlers in this county. Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Cosgrove, one, James Leo, died in infancy. The five living are: William, now a student in the University of Minnesota; Edna, a student in St. Clare Seminary, Winona; and Helen, Loretta and Genevieve, who are residing at home.

**Francis J. Wadley**, the popular station agent at Millville, was born in this village, August 8, 1888, son of Michael and Catherine Wadley. The parents were natives of Germany who came to Wabasha County 45 years ago. The father was a mason by trade and so continued during his entire active career, retiring about 1915, since which time he has resided in Millville. There were four children in the family, John, Matt, Michael and Francis J., all of whom are now living. Francis J. Wadley was educated in the Millville public school, and for some years subsequently worked both as carpenter and mason, having a good practical knowledge of both trades. In 1910 he became station agent at Millville for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, which position he still holds, and for the last three years he has also been manager for the Greenwood Prairie Telephone Co. Politically he is a Democrat. Mr. Wadley was married at Lake City, May 22, 1916, to Agnes Dickman, of Hammond, of which place her parents, John and Marie Dickman, were early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Wadley have two children, Catherine and Kenneth.

**Louis Miller**, a Wabasha County pioneer, now deceased, who was one of the early settlers in Zumbro Township, was born in Germany, where he grew to manhood and was married. With his wife Mary he came to America in 1856, locating first in Milwaukee, where he found employment as a street laborer for the city. In 1861 he removed to Wabasha County, Minnesota, the last stage of the journey being made up the river to Minneiska, from which landing-place he proceeded with his family to Zumbro Township. There he bought a farm of 165 acres, of which twelve acres was improved. Having built a log house, plastered with clay, he began the work of clearing and developing the rest of the land, using the oxen he had brought with him for the heavy draught work. Many years of industry were required to bring the farm into first class condition, but the task was finally accomplished. The old log building was replaced by a good frame house, and barns and outbuildings were erected. There Mr. Miller resided, engaged in general farming until his death in 1903. His wife did not long survive him, passing away in 1904, and after their death the property came into possession of their son Herman, who, after farming there for several years, sold it in 1911. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Miller



were: William, now a resident of Stearns County, Minn.; Louis, who lives in Renville County; Charles, a resident of Rochester, Minn., where he is working for the Sears-Roebuck Company of Chicago; Herman, a prosperous farmer of Plainview Township; and Lizzie, who is the wife of Jacob Farber, of Olmsted County.

**Herman Miller**, a progressive farmer residing in section 4, Plainview Township, where he is a well known and influential citizen, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1861, son of Louis and Mary Miller. He was but a babe when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and many years of his subsequent life were spent on their farm in Zumbro Township, where he was trained in agricultural pursuits, acquiring his education in the district school. On his mother's death in 1904, his father having died in the previous year, he came into possession of the home farm, which he operated on his own account until the fall of 1911. He then sold it and moved to section 4, Plainview Township, where he bought 138 acres of well improved land on which stood a good barn and residence of eight rooms, besides other buildings. Here he has continued general farming, also raising stock and garden produce, and is doing a very successful business. Formerly he served five years as a member of the board of supervisors of Zumbro Township and he has always taken a public spirited interest in the affairs of the community in which he resides. Mr. Miller was married at Rochester, Minn., in 1899, to Mrs. Otilia Rich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ost. She was born in Germany, where her parents died when she was five years old, and at the age of 17 she came alone to America, her only sister having come to this country three years before, settling in Minnesota. Otilia was twice married, her first husband being Robert Rich, of Rochester, Minn., by whom she had four children. Only one of these children is now living, namely, Arthur, who is employed in the C., M. & St. P. railway depot in Minneapolis. In 1917 he enlisted in the United States' service and served one year in France. The other three children died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. Herman Miller six children have been born: Lillie, Adeline, Henry, Elmer, Florence and Janette. Lillie is employed in Plainview village and Henry is working as a farm hand. The others are residing at home with their parents.

**William B. Oelkers**, one of the leading merchants of Millville, a member of the firm of Oelkers & Frisch, was born in Goodhue County, Minnesota, October 28, 1883, son of William and Anna (Augustine) Oelkers, who were natives of Germany. The father came to the United States with his parents at the age of 13 years, and was subsequently engaged in farming in Goodhue County until his retirement and removal to Red Wing in November, 1919. He and his wife have had ten children, of whom three, John, August and Anna, are now deceased. The living are Henry, William B., Edward, George, Albert, Gustav and Alfred. William B. Oelkers was educated in the district schools of Goodhue County, and subsequently worked on his parents' farm, also being employed one year as clerk in a store. Since then he has been engaged continuously in mercantile business. For 13 years he was associated with Satren Brothers and M. H. Satren, of Zumbrota, for six months of that time being engaged in the live stock business. On April 22, 1918, he came to Millville and purchased the interest of Harry I. Engel in the mercantile business of Frisch & Engel, the name of the firm being changed to Oelkers & Frisch. They are conducting an up-to-date general store, including hardware, dry goods and groceries, and also operate a similar store at Elgin, which is known as the Farmers' Store, Mr. Oelkers owning a half interest in both and acting as manager of both stores. As such he has shown good executive ability and made a name for himself in the business world. He is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Oelkers was married at Zumbrota, Minn., in June, 1907, to Anna Prigge, daughter of Peter and Dora Prigge, who were early settlers in Goodhue County. Of this marriage four children have been born, one of whom, Malinda, died at the



age of eight years. The three living are: Stella, born June 2, 1908; Clarence, September 3, 1911; and Elnora, September 6, 1913.

**Michael H. Wadley, Jr.**, assistant cashier of the Millville State Bank, and who is also serving as village recorder, was born in Millville, Minn., September 24, 1883, son of Michael H. and Katherine (Wagner) Wadley. The parents were natives of Germany, the father being a stone mason. After coming to the United States many years ago, they resided for awhile in Chicago, where he followed his trade, also continuing to work at it in other places, and in Wabasha County after his arrival here, until he retired in 1912. He and his wife had six children, of whom the four now living are Michael, John, Matt, and Francis, John being a resident of Minneapolis and the others of Millville. Michael H. Wadley, Jr., acquired his education in the graded school of Millville, and subsequently worked at the mason's trade with his father for about 12 years. For the next five years he was occupied as rural route mail carrier, at the same time acting as assistant cashier of the Millville State Bank, and for the last four years he has worked full time in the bank, having shown good business capacity, and being popular with its patrons. In March, 1919, he was elected village recorder of Millville. He belongs to the Order of Red Men, is independent in politics, and is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Wadley was married May 21, 1908, to Tressa McCullough. She was born in Keeegan, Minnesota, daughter of John and Mary Ann McCullough, who came to Wabasha from New York State. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wadley have four children, Michael, Joseph, Frances and Norbert.

**William Springer**, for many years an active and successful farmer of Oakwood Township, was a native of Germany, where he grew to manhood and married Caroline Becker. They came to the United States about 1865, locating first at Winona, Minn., and then removing to Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, where Mr. Springer bought a farm and engaged in general farming and stock raising. He and his wife remained on that place for the rest of their lives, and both died in the year 1911, Mrs. Springer on February 18, and Mr. Springer in December. They were the parents of eight children: Sophia, wife of John Cour; Louisa, wife of Julius Muckeburg, of Millville; Louis, a farmer in Oakwood Township; Minnie, wife of Fred Sanger, of Bovina, Texas; Dora, wife of Henry Wurst, of Elgin Township; Augusta, wife of Charles Schleicher, of Los Angeles, Calif.; John C., engaged in the implement business in Millville; and one who died in infancy.

**John C. Springer**, a representative citizen of the village of Millville, where he is engaged in the implement business, was born on a farm in Oakwood Township, this county, November 10, 1873, son of William and Caroline (Becker) Springer. He was educated in the common school and worked on the home farm until 29 years old. Then moving to Millville, he engaged in the meat business, in which he continued here for 13 years. His next two years were spent on the farm and one winter in California. In 1916 he engaged in the lumber and implement business at Millville, and is thus occupied at the present time, carrying a full line of farm machinery, buggies and wagons. He is a stockholder in the Millville State Bank, and one of the enterprising and well-to-do citizens of the village, of which he is now president, having formerly held that position for three years, resigning it when he went to California. His present term of office dates from his appointment in November, 1919. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen, and he is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church of Millville, and is now serving as its president. Mr. Springer was married, April 5, 1898, to Louisa Schleicher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Schleicher, of Millville. He and his wife have six children, Florence, Lucy, Dorothy, John, Margaret and Charles, all living at home.

**Henry W. Reich**, operating the Lone Pine farm in section 13, Elgin Township, was born in Elgin Township, May 17, 1870, son of Herman and Annie (Mathews) Reich. In his boyhood he attended district school in Elgin Town-





MR. AND MRS. HENRY REICH







ship, and also the school in Plainview village. On his parents' farm he thoroughly learned agriculture in its different branches, and continued to work for his father until 1910, in which year he rented a farm in Elgin Township on which he resided until 1912. He then rented his father's farm of 120 acres in section 13, which is known as Lone Pine Farm, and which he is now operating with good financial results, doing general farming and stock raising. He has made a number of improvements on the place, including the erection of a garage and outbuildings. Mr. Reich was married December 14, 1911, to Celia Hostettler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hostettler, who was born July 8, 1881, her parents being members of the Old Settlers' Association of Plainview. The home circle of Mr. and Mrs. Reich has been enlarged by the birth of two children: Anna M., born October 6, 1916; and James H., born March 29, 1918. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Reich are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Alzis Zebina Putnam**, a resident of the village of Minneiska, and who for many years served as probate judge of Wabasha County, was born in the town of Florence, Oneida County, N. Y., October 1, 1829, son of Pliny and Flora (Edgerton) Putnam. He is a descendant in the eighth generation of one of the early settlers of New England, John Putnam, who arrived from England in 1634, and located at Salem, Mass. Of the three sons of John Putnam, one was the ancestor of the subject of this sketch, and another of General Israel Putnam, of Revolutionary fame. Judge Putnam's great grandfather on the paternal side, and also his grandfather, Capt. Joseph Putnam, fought against the British at the battle of Bunker Hill. When the subject of this sketch was six or eight years old, his parents moved to Oswego County, N. Y., where he attended school. Another migration of the family transferred his home to Chautauqua County, where his education was continued, until his parents moved to northern Illinois. In Elgin, that state, he later read law with the firm of Morgan & Joslin, and was there admitted to the bar in 1856. In the fall of the same year he moved to Wabasha County, Minn., and took up his residence in the village of Minneiska, where he has ever since remained. His record as a member of the bar has been long and honorable, and he is now the oldest living member of his profession in the county. In the fall of 1859 he was elected to the office of probate judge, and served four years, his only predecessors in that office having been H. P. Wilson, 1856; G. F. Childs, 1857; and B. C. Baldwin, 1858-9. He was again elected to the same office in 1871, and served two terms, and in 1882 he was elected for the third time, after which he held the same office at intervals for a considerable number of years, and he continues to do a little probate business even up to the present time. In addition to his legal practice, Judge Putnam engaged in the insurance business, about 1860, and has since continued in it, though in late years but slightly, as advancing years have led to his practical retirement. In earlier times he took a more or less active part in local affairs of a public character, serving for a number of years as a member and chairman of the board of supervisors of the county, of which he first became a member about 1858; also as village recorder for six or eight years. He was married in Chautauqua County, N. Y., in 1848, to Jane Elizabeth Fuller, a native of that county, who died in Minneiska, Minn., in 1906, at the age of 76 years. Of this marriage there was one child, Flora Eugenia, who was born January 21, 1849, in Arkwright, Chautauqua County, N. Y. She was married January 12, 1867, to Gustav Edward Kading, a native of Brandenburg, Prussia, Germany, who died January 1, 1870, since which time Mrs. Kading has resided with her father, Judge Putnam, at his comfortable home in Minneiska, commanding a picturesque view of the Mississippi River, and opposite the bluffs of the Wisconsin shore. Judge Putnam and his daughter are among the most highly respected residents of this part of Wabasha County. They are people of refinement and education, Mrs. Kading being well versed in French, German, Spanish and Italian, and



their home is well supplied with the best books and magazines. They are members of the Episcopal church, although unable to attend services here, as there is no church of that denomination in the village.

**Michael A. Callahan**, a well known merchant of Minneiska, who for the last 14 years has also held the office of postmaster, was born in Sandy Creek village, Orleans County, New York, November 23, 1858, son of John and Mary Callahan. The parents, natives of Ireland, came to the United States about 1839 or 1840, and spent the rest of their lives in Orleans County as farmers. The mother was the first to pass away, her death taking place in 1869. She had been twice married, John Callahan being her second husband. He survived her but a short time, dying in 1872. Michael A. Callahan, who was the only child of his mother's second marriage, resided in Orleans County, New York, until reaching the age of 20 years. After attending the local schools, and for a part of the time while thus engaged, he assisted his father on the home farm. He then learned telegraphy and for some years was in the employ of the New York Central Railroad, at Rochester, N. Y. About 1880 he came west to Minnesota and entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co., from 1881 to 1888 being stationed successively at St. Paul, Winona, and Weaver, Minn. Then going to Montana, he worked for the Great Northern Railroad Co. for a while. Under President Harrison's administration he obtained a government position in the Indian service, and was thus employed during the rest of that administration, and for eight months under that of President Cleveland. He then returned to railroad work, but was shortly taken sick, and for the next two years did little, on account of poor health. When he resumed active work again, it was as an employe of the Mississippi Logging Company, and for four years he had charge of their store at West Newton. In 1898 Mr. Callahan came to Minneiska and started his present store, well stocked with boots and shoes, and men's furnishing goods, in which line of trade he has established a reputation as a reliable merchant. In September, 1906, he became postmaster and has remained a popular official. The office is located in his store. In 1882 Mr. Callahan was married at Weaver, Minn., to Eliza J. Hitchcock, who was born in Missouri, November 27, 1860, but had lived in Minnesota since she was three years old, and in Weaver, Wabasha County, since she was 18. She was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Hitchcock, who settled at an early date in this county. One member of the family is said to have been the first white child born on Greenwood Prairie, near Plainview. To Mr. and Mrs. Callahan were born three daughters; Daisy, September 15, 1883; Ellen Grace, October 20, 1884, and Frances, June 28, 1887. Only one is now living, Daisy having passed away August 4, 1901, and Ellen Grace, August 10, 1886. The surviving daughter, Frances, was married February 18, 1908, to Edward J. Valentine, and now resides in Rollingstone Township, Winona County. She has six children, namely: Donald, born November 20, 1909; Ruth Elizabeth, August 14, 1911; James Edward, November 29, 1912; Katherine M., February 22, 1914; Frances A., October 22, 1915; and Florence in December, 1918. Mrs. Michael A. Callahan died January 14, 1917, leaving to her husband the memory of a happy wedded life. He is one of the leading citizens of the picturesque little village of Winneiska, the history of which he has helped to make, and few men in this part of the county are better known or more popular.

**John M. BerktoId**, who holds a high place among the active and successful farmers of Mt. Pleasant Township, was born on a farm in section 7, this township, April 5, 1872, son of Engelbert and Anna (Daniel) BerktoId. The father was born in the German Tyrol and the mother in Luxemburg. They came separately to the United States, Engelbert BerktoId coming in 1858, when single, and Anna Daniel a little later, their marriage taking place in this country. They settled in section 7, Mt. Pleasant Township, where they established a farm, on which their son, John M., worked hard from an early age, though he









MR. AND MRS. DAVID PUGH



attended district school during the sessions until he was fifteen. He remained on the home farm until he was 26 years old, and was then married, June 22, 1898, to Mary Horrigan, daughter of John and Mary Horrigan, of Mt. Pleasant Township. They began home making in section 27, Mt. Pleasant Township, on their present farm of 240 acres, situated seven miles southwest of Lake City. All the land is now under the plow and is very productive, the farm being one of the best in the county. It has a fine set of buildings, the residence being a frame structure, a story and a half in height and containing twelve rooms. The barn measures 42 by 80 by 18 feet, and has a full stone basement; and there are, in addition, a tool shed, 22 by 30 by 12, with a lean-to 18 by 30; a granary 20 by 32 by 16; corn crib 18 by 40 with an 8-foot drive; a poultry house, wash-house, garage, work shop, scale house, and a steel windmill with a large reservoir. All the buildings are in fine condition and the farm is beautifully located. Mr. BerktoId operated it successfully as a grain and stock farm, having large herds of high grade Shorthorn cattle, Duroc Jersey swine and Shropshire sheep. For each herd he has full-blooded sires. His equipment, besides an adequate amount of modern machinery, includes 15 good work horses. Enterprising and industrious, he is getting results, and is one of the most prosperous citizens of his township. Mr. BerktoId and his wife are the parents of six children: Edward Leroy, born April 13, 1899, who is working on the farm with his father; Irene Helen, born August 12, 1900, who is a graduate of the Lake City High School and the Winona Normal School, and is now engaged in teaching; Harry Mathias, born December 24, 1901; John Bernard, born March 7, 1905; Irma Mae, born June 22, 1906; and Frances Margaret, born September 11, 1911. The family are members of the Catholic church, attending St. Mary's at Lake City. In politics Mr. BerktoId is a Republican.

**David Pugh**, one of the pioneers of Wabasha County, now deceased, was born in Wales, April 16, 1839. In 1856, a young man of 17, he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family coming west as far as Milwaukee, where David remained until 1858. He then went to St. Louis, in which city he resided for about four years. In 1862 he came to the river, and, settling at a point near Wabasha village, entered the employ of a steamboat company, being thus occupied until 1867. After that he followed the occupation of raftsmen for two years, and then, in 1869, turned his attention to farming. Buying 140 acres in section 2, Greenfield Township, he built a log house, which he occupied for two years until he was able to erect a better residence. He also put up other necessary buildings, and for about 36 years thereafter was engaged in general farming and stock raising, or until his death on June 30, 1905. Mr. Pugh was a man held in high respect by his fellow citizens and neighbors for his sterling personal qualities, and as one of the hardy pioneers of this county who had taken an active part in its development. He was married October 18, 1874, to Josephine Bush, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Bush, her parents being natives of Canada, who came to Wabasha County in 1854, and spent the rest of their lives in Wabasha village. Mr. and Mrs. Pugh had a large family, numbering 11 children, namely: Hugh A., born September 10, 1876; Mary B., May 19, 1878; Susan E., January 6, 1880; Jacob H., November 4, 1882; David W., December 6, 1884; Cora E., December 28, 1886; Della E., January 15, 1890; Anna L., March 15, 1892; James O., May 15, 1894; Margaret M., September 4, 1897, and Owen F., August 15, 1900. Mary B. became the wife of Joseph Felix, Susan E. the wife of Reed Hovet, and Della E. the wife of Robert Braun. Anna L. died at the age of nearly 19 years on February 28, 1911. Since her husband's death Mrs. Pugh has made valuable improvements on the farm, having erected a fine residence, barn and other buildings. The farm is located on what is known as Pugh's Point, commanding one of the finest views on the Mississippi river, and in the vicinity are some handsome summer homes.

**Engelbert BerktoId**, now living retired in Lake City, is a man well known and highly esteemed throughout the northern part of Wabasha County, of



which he was a pioneer settler. He was born in the Austrian Tyrol, May 1, 1845, son of John and Chassens Berktold. His parents were poor and he had but little schooling, notwithstanding which handicap he has played a worthy part in the battle of life. In 1859 the parents, with their family, emigrated to Minnesota, he being then a boy of 14 years. For ten years thereafter he was in the employ of a Mr. Girard at Frontenac, Goodhue County, and during this period, in 1866, he married Anna Daniels, who had come to this section when about seven years old, with her parents, who, like the Berktolds, were in poor circumstances. For two years after his marriage Mr. Berktold remained at Frontenac. Then, in 1868, he bought 80 acres of wild prairie land in section 17, Mt. Pleasant Township. This marked the beginning of his independent career, full of hard labor, but producing results at which he can look back with pride. For his first residence on his property he erected a board shanty, which measured only 12 by 12 feet, but which gave him and his wife enough room to turn around in, and for a few years afforded them sufficient shelter. With an ox team he broke and cultivated his land, being ably assisted by his wife, who, after children came, not only cared for her family during the day, but after supper went out and shocked grain until long after dark, and proved a worthy helpmate in every way. The little 80-acre farm proved only a nucleus for Mr. Berktold's property acquisitions, and insufficient to give scope for his superabundant energies, for, from time to time, he kept buying land until he was the owner of 480 acres, 240 lying in sections 17 and 7 and the other 240 in section 27. Each tract constituted a separate farm, and these two farms he made among the best in Pleasant Township. In September, 1906, Mr. Berktold retired from agricultural work, and bought a nice residence at No. 204 North Prairie Avenue, Lake City, where he and his wife are now enjoying a well earned leisure, provided with all the reasonable comforts of life. In 1914 he sold the old home farm in sections 7 and 17 to his son, Ted. Mr. Berktold has always been a Democrat in politics. He was too busy during his active career to take an active part in governmental affairs, but served seven years as treasurer of the district school board. He and his family are Catholics in religion, and he can remember the time when he drove ten miles to church, sitting on a board laid across his wagon box. During those early years he and his family suffered privations, but endured their lot with fortitude, and made themselves useful as factors in the development of this section. To Mr. and Mrs. Berktold eight children were born: Edward, who is deceased; Catherine, now Mrs. John Mueller, of Goodhue County; John, who is on the home farm in section 27, Mt. Pleasant Township; Frank, deceased; Minnie, now Mrs. George Marchessault, of South Minneapolis; Theodore, a prosperous farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township; Mary, who married Edward Gregorie, of North Dakota, and Rose, wife of A. Giles, of Chicago. Though Mr. Berktold had a successful career and accumulated much of this world's goods, he and his wife were not selfish, but were always ready to help others, and their generosity is remembered by many of the present residents of the county, who also had their early struggles, and with timely assistance were enabled to conquer success.

**Theodore A. Berktold**, a farmer of section 7, Mt. Pleasant Township, comes of a good pioneer family, and in his personal career has emulated his parents' virtues and is meeting with a similar reward. He was born on the farm on which he now lives, May 4, 1880, son of Engelbert and Anna (Daniels) Berktold, and the scenes of his childhood are those by which he is now surrounded, except that of the old familiar faces some have passed away beyond earthly recall, and others have dispersed and no longer brighten the old home. But in their place new ones have come which are no less dear, and the work of the world must go on and men and women must do it. Among others, Mr. Berktold is doing his share. His mental preparation was made in the district school, which he attended up to the age of 15 years. His industrial experience has been more prolonged, and has been in that line of industry which is most neces-









G. H. RUSSELL AND FAMILY



sary to mankind, and which has been the chief factor in the development of Wabasha County and the increase of its wealth. Both as boy and man he assisted his father in the work of the farm, learning something every day and in time becoming a good practical farmer. The farm on which he now lives, containing 240 acres, formed one half of his parents' estate, and it became his by purchase in 1914. Every foot of ground was familiar and he, himself, had aided largely in bringing it to its present high state of cultivation, all the land being now under the plow, and producing abundant crops of grain and other farm products. The buildings include a good eleven-room frame house; a barn, 40 by 72 by 16 feet, with a full stone basement of nine feet; a granary, 20 by 32 by 10, together with a hog house, shop and tool shed, poultry house, and machine shed, all of adequate dimensions. There is also a good equipment of tools and machinery, including an auto car. Mr. BerktoId follows general farming and stockraising, keeping Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine, with full-blooded sires for each herd. With such resources Mr. BerktoId is making good, and has taken high rank among the leading farmers of his township. He was married September 26, 1905, to Anna Catherine Giles, who was born in Goodhue County, Minn., November 1, 1883, daughter of George W. and Mary (Guenter) Giles. He and his wife are the parents of one child, Engelbert John, who was born July 29, 1917. Mr. BerktoId and his family are members of the Catholic church and of the Belvidere congregation. Politically he is a Democrat, and served as clerk and treasurer of the school board for seven years.

**Matt Binner**, a prosperous citizen of Greenfield Township, engaged in agriculture, was born in the Duchy of Luxemburg, March 27, 1858, son of Andrew and Anna (Arens) Binner. His parents, who were natives of the same country, resided there all their lives. He was there educated and remained until arriving at the age of twenty years, when, in 1878, he came to Minnesota, locating in Caledonia, Houston County. After remaining there a year he came to Wabasha County, where he resided two years. He then spent some time in traveling through the West, finally returning to Wabasha County, and in 1888 he settled down to farming, buying 100 acres in sections 8 and 9, Greenfield Township, which is his present farm. He has erected all the buildings on it and put up fences, and is engaged in mixed farming including the raising of garden truck for the market. In addition, he breeds a high grade of hogs, keeping a full-blooded sire, and is making satisfactory financial progress. For ten years he has served on the school board of district No. 5. Mr. Binner was married January 28, 1884, to Bridget Weber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Weber, her parents being natives of Germany who are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Binner have eight children, as follows: Andrew, born December 7, 1885; Barbara, born February 5, 1888, who is now Mrs. Edward Klug of Caledonia; Michael, born March 25, 1890, now residing in Greenfield Township; John, born March 5, 1892, also of Greenfield; Katherine, born March 15, 1894, now Mrs. Charles A. Carrels of Wabasha; Millie, born March 27, 1896; Emil, born October 19, 1897, and Martin, born September 29, 1901. Mr. Binner and his family are members of the Catholic church.

**George H. Russell**, a prominent farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township, is a native of New England, having been born in Windham County, Conn., July 3, 1852, son of Gurley and Marina (Clark) Russell. He was about six years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, the family settling at Central Point, one mile west of Lake City. In that location they remained about five years, at the end of which time Gurley Russell bought 200 acres of wild government land in Chester Township. Although the land was cheap the purchase must have strained his resources, as he was very poor. For a dwelling he built a small board shack which had but one room, and which retained the heat so poorly that during the cold days and evenings in winter the family used to extemporize an inner room by hanging blankets at a little distance all around the stove and gather within the inner space to keep from freezing.



However, in time they had better accommodations and developed the farm on which their son George H. now resides. Gurley Russell died in 1894, and his wife in 1904, in Chester Township. George H. Russell when a boy attended district school, but his hours of work soon became longer than those of study or play, and he did his part in helping to develop the parental farm, remaining at home up to the age of 23 years. On September 10, 1874, he married Savilla, daughter of William and Emeline (Heabner) Bundy, who were early settlers on section 32, Mt. Pleasant Township. Soon after his marriage he and his wife went to South Dakota, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land one and a quarter miles from the present site of Millbank. When the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway was projected through that section, Mr. Russell was one of the men who made up a purse of \$3,000 to induce the railroad company to locate a station at Millbank rather than at a point located a few miles west, and the station was built there accordingly. Mr. Russell remained in that locality for 18 years, but finally lost everything owing to drouths. He was of an adventurous disposition, and at the age of 24 had spent one season in the Black Hills, prospecting for gold, but without success. In 1898 he made a still greater venture of the same kind, this time going to Alaska, where many other adventurers were then seeking their fortunes, some of whom met with success, but the great majority with disappointment, and not a few losing their lives. He was there for a year and a half, located successively at Dawson City and at Winder, and though he suffered hard times and much privation, he gained nothing but experience. After his long residence in South Dakota, he and his wife returned to Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, mainly on account of the sickness of his wife's parents, and since then he has been engaged in operating the home farm. His experience has been very thorough, as in early life he was accustomed to pioneer methods, driving oxen, splitting rails, and hauling wood and rails from Mazeppa and beyond. But he has kept pace with modern progress, and today his farm is well supplied with all necessary machinery for scientific farming, all branches of which he follows, raising both grain and stock. He keeps both Holstein and Shorthorn cattle, and Hampshire swine, and is doing a prosperous business. His farm contains 160 acres of productive land. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have been the parents of four children: William M., born September 26, 1875, who is now a resident of Tacoma, Wash.; Frank, born May 10, 1877, who is a conductor on the Northern Pacific Railroad and lives in Bellingham, Wash.; Bessie, born August 3, 1880, who is residing at home; and Goldie May, born March 20, 1882, who married Ernest Hostetter of Lake City and died March 16, 1918. Mrs. Russell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while politically Mr. Russell is a Republican.

**William M. Bundy**, an early settler in Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in New York State in the second decade of the nineteenth century. He was married in Clearfield County, Pa., to Emeline Heabner, and with his family came west in 1864, to Wabasha County, Minn., locating on land in section 32, Mt. Pleasant Township. There were four children, all born in Pennsylvania, namely, Wesley, Savilla, Julia and Francis. During the Civil War period Mr. Bundy was drafted but sent a substitute. His land, when he first took it, was unbroken prairie, and his first dwelling, which he himself erected, a small board shack. He was poor, but had oxen, which were of great assistance to him in developing the farm. About 1896, owing to poor health, he retired and moved to Lake City, where he finally died at the age of 83 years, his wife dying at that of 74. Their children were all given a common school education. Mr. Bundy was a successful man and a highly respected citizen, industrious and temperate. He and his wife were faithful members of the M. E. church at Lake City.

**John Tomforde**, a respected resident of Lake City whose successful career as a farmer in Mt. Pleasant Township has placed him beyond the need of further toil, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 28, 1862, son of Lawrence and Anna (Popp) Tomforde. He had some schooling in his native land, and



at the age of eleven years lost his mother. In 1883, having attained his majority, his father being yet living, though now deceased, he came to the United States, locating at Red Wing, Minn., where he found work as a common laborer. On December 25, 1884, he married Mattie Henn who was born in Hanover, Germany, August 12, 1858, and who had come in 1881 to this country, where she had brothers. Mr. and Mrs. Tomforde began domestic life in Red Wing, but soon removed to Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County, where they resided two years, later being residents of Burnside Township for twelve years. During a part of this time Mr. Tomforde worked two years for a Mr. Meyer in the milk business, and eight years in a tannery at Red Wing. In the fall of 1896 he began his independent career as a farmer, buying 280 acres in section 24 and 25, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, moving to the farm in the spring of 1897, and he and his family taking up their residence in a frame house which stood on it, which owing to improvements made by himself, is now a comfortable two-story dwelling of nine rooms. His other improvements included the erection of a frame barn, 38 by 60 by 18; a granary, 20 by 30 by 12, with a lean-to on both sides for tools; and a steel windmill. Favored with a productive soil, Mr. Tomforde followed general farming very successfully until 1912, getting 240 acres of his land under the plow, when, finding himself in possession of a competence, he transferred the operation of the farm to his son Louis and took up his residence in Lake City, where he and his wife are living in a home of their own, at No. 417 North Prairie avenue, enjoying a period of well-earned leisure. Mr. Tomforde has always been a Republican and served his township as supervisor for four terms, also serving on the school board for many years, his ability as a farmer being matched by his usefulness as a citizen. All that he has was gained through his own efforts, with the assistance of his wife and children, and his record is one to command respect. To Mr. and Mrs. Tomforde six children have been born: Anna, now Mrs. Joseph Fick, of Hyde Park Township; Louis, operating the home farm in Mt. Pleasant Township; Minnie, who is the wife of William Wiebush of Belvidere Township, Goodhue County; John, of Lake Township; Mary, now Mrs. Bernard Carlson of Lake City, and Ella, residing at home with her parents.

**Louis W. Tomforde**, operator of a fine farm of 280 acres in sections 24 and 25, Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Burnside Township, Goodhue County, October 16, 1888, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Tomforde. He was educated in the common school, which he attended up to the age of 14 years, after which he was associated with his father in the operation of the home farm, on which he now resides. Since his father's retirement in 1912 he has been the sole manager and is conducting a good business in general farming and stock raising, keeping Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, besides sheep. Industrious and enterprising, he is managing the large farm of 280 acres to the best advantage and with profitable results. He has a good set of buildings and modern operating equipment, also owning a good auto car. Politically he is a member of the Non-Partisan League. Mr. Tomforde was married September 25, 1912, to Christina, daughter of L. H. Roschen of Mt. Pleasant Township, and who was born in Florence Township, Goodhue County, Minn., May 31, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Tomforde are the parents of two children: Luvonna Mattie Anna, born November 9, 1915; and Henrietta Johanna Anna, born September 9, 1917. Mr. Tomforde and family are members of St. John's congregation of Lake City, and are people held in high esteem in the northern part of Wabasha County.

**James Titterington (Sr.)**, a Minnesota pioneer who passed away a few years ago, was born in County Down, Ireland, March 12, 1842. He came to the United States in 1859, a young man of seventeen, and first located in New York State, where he remained two years. In 1861 he came west to Minnesota, but soon went to Eau Claire, Wis., where he found employment in the lumber camps for some time also working as a raftsmen on the river. In 1866 he turned his attention to farming, buying a tract of 40 acres of land, to which he added subse-



quently until he owned 240 acres lying partly in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, and Viola Township, Olmsted County, also eight lots in Elgin Village. He was a member of the Masonic order and belonged also to the Old Settlers' Association of Elgin. His marriage to Mary Bunyon took place November 26, 1868. It resulted in five children, the first born of whom, Howard, is deceased. Those living are Frank, Ralph, Minnie and James, Jr. Minnie is now the wife of Erwin Cowles. James Titterington (Sr.) died February 18, 1915, and his wife, who survived him, is now living with her son, James A.

**James A. Titterington, (Jr.)**, who is engaged in mixed farming and stock breeding in Elgin Township, of which he is a well known and popular citizen, was born in this township, April 18, 1883, son of James and Mary (Bunyon) Titterington. His education was acquired in the Elgin village school, and for several years thereafter he was employed at manual labor in that vicinity. One year was spent in the employ of the telephone company, and he subsequently worked for his father, receiving one half the crop for his pay. When his father died he came into possession of 80 acres of the estate in section 35, which he is now operating, together with 80 more which he rents from his brother Ralph. He keeps high grade stock, with a full-blooded sire at the head of his cattle herd, and also breeds Duroc swine, with good financial results. Mr. Titterington was married, January 4, 1911, to Cora B. Tyler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Winfield Tyler, and he and his wife have three children: Mary B., born October 13, 1911; Irene A., November 14, 1914; and Arthur P., September 13, 1916. The family are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Fritz O. Trank**, a well-to-do farmer of Oakwood Township, was born in Sweden, May 19, 1873, son of Ola and Anna (Pearson) Trank. The parents were born in Sweden, the father during his active career being foreman on the large sugar factory farms. He and his wife are still living there, though he is now retired. Fritz O. Trank was educated in the public schools of Sweden, and was 19 years old when he came to the United States in 1893, locating in South Dakota. There he was engaged in farm work until 1894. Then coming to Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., he went to work on his present farm, and was employed on it ten years by its owner, Lars Pearson. At the end of that time Mr. Trank rented it, and has since operated it on his own account, raising grade Shorthorn cattle and grade Chester-White swine, in addition to crops. The farm lies in sections 16 and 17 and contains 160 acres. Mr. Trank also owns a farm of 160 acres in Burle County, S. D., which he rents out, and from the two farms he derives a good income. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and also of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**James R. O'Brien**, proprietor of one of the largest and best farms in Mt. Pleasant Township, which he has himself developed to a large extent, was born in Lake Township, Wabasha County, February 19, 1866, son of John and Hannah (Mahony) O'Brien. The parents were of Irish descent but were both born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. When a boy James R. accompanied them to Lake City, this county, where he attended school. In 1893 he started in for himself as a renter on the Farrell farm owned by his father, which he operated until 1899. He then bought 400 acres in sections 21 and 28, Mt. Pleasant Township, on which were a frame house and tool shed. To improve the place he erected a good set of buildings, including a barn and granaries, and conducted agricultural operations successfully and without any bad luck until July 5, 1909, when the farm buildings, except the house, were swept by fire. In the same fall Mr. O'Brien rebuilt the barn, making it a good modern structure 42 by 114 by 18 feet in dimensions, with a full 9-foot basement for horses and cattle; also a granary, 24 by 34 by 20 feet, with elevator; a double corn crib, 18 by 24, with an 8-foot driveway; a poultry house, hog house, steel windmill, and a garage for his two autos—a Ford and a Studebaker. The farm is in a high state of cultivation and is very productive, 460 acres being under the plow. It is well stocked with high grade Shorthorn cattle, the herd numbering from





JAMES R. O'BRIEN AND FAMILY.







80 to 100 head, also a herd of 75 to 100 Duroc-Jersey hogs, both herds having full-blooded sires. He has also a very complete operating equipment, including an R. B. plow tractor with three plows, having a 12 by 25 drawback power, and a Titan threshing machine. On the farm is a fine orchard bearing winter varieties of fruit. In 1919 Mr. O'Brien bought the William Johns farm of 80 acres, adjoining his own, for his eldest son; and on his own farm he built in 1917 a fine tile silo of 150 tons' capacity. It will thus be seen that he is a man who knows how to do things on a large scale, and his success is the result of good managerial ability, coupled with persistent work and driving power. These qualities he also showed during the recent war as chairman of the Liberty Loan drives in his township, carrying the first four "over the top" and making a good record in the fifth. In 1894 he was elected town clerk and by successive elections held office until 1918, when he resigned. His friends urged him to run again but Mr. O'Brien considered 24 years in the office long enough. Mr. O'Brien was married November 3, 1892, to Minnie M. Miller, daughter of Frederick W. and Mary H. Miller of Lake Township. Six children are the issue of this union: Richard Harold, born October 15, 1894; Frederick John, December 18, 1897; Mary Genevieve, December 28, 1899; George Sylvester, January 16, 1902; James Arthur, April 19, 1905, and Francis Ralph, April 13, 1908. Richard Harold, who, as already mentioned, is operating a farm adjoining that of his father, was married October 26, 1918, to Emma Sprick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sprick of Mt. Pleasant Township. The other children are residing on the home farm except Mary Genevieve, who graduated from the Lake City high school and is now engaged in teaching. Mr. O'Brien and his family are members of the Catholic church, attending St. Mary's at Lake City.

**Oscar W. Nygren**, a prominent citizen of Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in the township where he now resides, April 7, 1876, son of Charles J. and Maria Nygren. He was reared to farm pursuits by his father, attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and has taken two full winter courses in the Minnesota Agricultural College. He operates 120 acres on section 26, Mt. Pleasant Township, a part of the old home farm, and here, on an extensive scale, he carries on general farming and stock raising, aside from the usual crops. Since 1896 he has operated a threshing outfit, and his operations in this line are widely known. His farm is unusually well equipped with implements, tools and machinery, including a gang plow of eight plows. In politics Mr. Nygren is a Democrat, although in local affairs he votes for men and immediate issues rather than for party. He has never sought elective political office, but under Gov. John A. Johnson's last administration he served two years as State Boiler Inspector of Wabasha County. He is popular with his fellow citizens, prosperous in his operations, and a useful member of his community. Mr. Nygren was married April 4, 1914, to Christine Bolang, born December 1, 1884, in Zumbrota, Goodhue County, daughter of Ole Bolang, of Central Point, Goodhue County, this state. To Mr. and Mrs. Nygren have been born two children: Byron William, November 4, 1917, and died May 7, 1919; Philip Douglas, March 27, 1920. The family faith is that of the Swedish Lutheran church at Lake City.

**Carl V. Houghton**, proprietor of Oakdale Stock Farm in section 26, Elgin Township, was born in the village of Elgin, Wabasha County, Minn., August 1, 1878, son of David E. and Helen R. (Cameron) Houghton. He acquired his education in the village school, and at the age of 15 did farm labor in the vicinity, continuing to work on farms until 1902. He then obtained a position as clerk in the general store operated by Mrs. H. E. Gates in the village of Elgin, and subsequently followed a mercantile career for 14 years, or until 1916. By that time he found that inside work did not agree with him, and for the sake of his health, which was failing, he concluded to take up some branch of farming. He accordingly bought the Oakdale Stock farm of 240 acres in



section 26, where he is now engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle, high grade hogs, and Percheron horses, with profitable results. Mr. Houghton was married February 12, 1908, to Flora S. Dunn, who was born and reared in her present residence. Mr. and Mrs. Houghton have four children: Herold D., born June 23, 1909; Philip C., May 23, 1911; Helen L., May 10, 1913, and Dunn W., April 13, 1917. The older children are attending school in the village. Mr. Houghton is a member of the Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., and both he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star and worship at the Methodist Episcopal church.

**David E. Houghton** was born in Boston, Mass., in 1845. He was educated in the East, in which section of the country he remained until reaching the age of 20. Then coming West, he made his home for two years on a farm at Beaver Dam, Wis. At the end of that time he came to Elgin village, where he worked at the carpenter's trade until 1867, helping to build most of the business part of the village. At the end of that period he located on a farm of 80 acres in sections 34 and 35, Elgin Township, and for about five years was engaged in agriculture there. He then went back to his trade, which he followed for twenty years thereafter, or until 1902, when he retired and took up his residence in Plainview village, where he died in December, 1910. David E. and Helen R. (Cameron) Houghton were the parents of three children: John R., now residing at Grass Lake, Mich.; Walter D., deceased; and Carl V., of Elgin Township.

**Clyde F. Harvey**, one of the younger farmers of Elgin Township who is making rapid progress on the road to prosperity, was born in this township, June 29, 1894, son of John and Hattie (Bigelow) Harvey. As a boy he attended district school in the township, and also the Elgin village school. Brought up on the home farm, he early acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture in its different branches, and was associated with his father, for whom he worked until 1919. In that year his parents retired, and Clyde F. rented the home farm, containing 280 acres in section 29, which he is now operating as a general farmer and stock raiser. The place is well improved, having substantial buildings and a full equipment of modern machinery, and by Mr. Harvey is being worked with good financial results. Mr. Harvey has quite recently assumed the responsibilities of domestic life, having been united in marriage February 21, 1920, with Ava Cunningham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cunningham. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is a Mason. He is a man who takes an intelligent and helpful interest in all matters concerning the good of the community. Though he has but lately started out on an independent career, he has the qualities that compel success, and that are bound also to make him a factor in the development and improvement of this county should he continue his residence here.

**William J. Keough**, one of the active and prosperous farmers of Oakwood Township, was born on his present farm of 120 acres in section 17, November 18, 1884, son of John and Ellen (Hollihan) Keough. He was educated in the district school and the public school at Millville, this county, while his agricultural training was acquired on the home farm. From 1905 to 1909 he worked in the general store of F. J. Cornwell & Co. at Plainview. Then, on the death of his father, he returned home and bought out the other heirs to the estate, the home farm thus coming into his possession. He follows diversified farming, breeding Shorthorn cattle and Chester-White swine, with both of which kinds of stock he has had good success, and he has further identified himself with agricultural interests by joining the Millville Shipping Association. Aside from his personal business interests, he has devoted some of his time to public affairs, having served as town clerk and assessor, and being the present treasurer of School District No. 89. On November 10, 1914, Mr. Keough was united in marriage with Sarah McGuigan of Millville, who was born June 24, 1880. He and his wife have one child, Agnes Mary, who was born August 25, 1916. The family are members of the Catholic church.









ADOLPH MEINCKE AND FAMILY  
MR. AND MRS. HENRY MEINCKE, SR.  
MR. AND MRS. HENRY J. TIEDEMANN



**Henry Meincke**, who was for a number of years and up to the time of his death, a prominent and respected citizen and land owner of Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, where he grew to manhood and followed the occupation of a laborer. He was married in his native land to Anna Tomforde, and after the birth of their first child, Margaret, they decided to try their fortunes in the United States, to which country they came in 1870. They settled first in Goodhue County, Minnesota, but after a while moved to Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, where Mr. Meincke engaged in farming, and, as he had some means to begin with, he found little difficulty in making progress, the more so as he was not a man to shun hard work. So well did he get along that in time he found himself the owner of 600 acres of land in the township, which in 1909 he divided among his sons. He was a man of strong and rugged physique, and as a citizen was useful and respected. He died July 15, 1919, having been a widower for somewhat over 14 years, as his wife passed away June 15, 1905. They had in all seven children. The first, Margaret, who, as already mentioned, was born in Germany, is now the widow of Fred Dose, and resides in Lake City. The other children, all born in this country, and all now living, are: Emma, now Mrs. John Brinkman of Zumbrota, Goodhue County, Minn.; Henry John, a prosperous farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township; Elizabeth, wife of John Vollmer, of Lake City; George, a farmer in Mt. Pleasant Township; Adolph, who is farming in the same township; and Freda, now Mrs. Herman Nibbe, of Gilford Township.

**Henry Tiedemann**, a respected resident of Lake City, who was formerly engaged in agriculture in Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, November 4, 1849, son of John and Katie (Offerman) Tiedemann. He remained in his native land until the spring of 1870, when he came to America, locating first in Chicago, where he resided until the fall of that year. He then came to Wabasha County, Minn., and for nine years subsequently worked around as a farm hand, saving what he could of his wages with the view of some day starting in for himself. At the end of that period he rented a farm for a year, and then acquired a farm of his own, buying 80 acres in Mt. Pleasant Township. Sixty acres of the land had been cleared, but there were no buildings, and Mr. Tiedemann accordingly built a house and some straw sheds. There he resided until 1903, successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, and then retired and took up his residence in Lake City. He now owns 290 acres of land and is in no need of further toil, owning in addition a house in Lake City at the corner of Sixth and Central streets. Mr. Tiedemann was always a hard worker and remained strong and vigorous until about six years ago. He had only a common school education, but made the best of his opportunities and succeeded in life. Politically he is a Republican. Mr. Tiedemann was married August 28, 1881, to Catherine, daughter of Jergen Fick, of Bear Valley, Chester Township, this county. He and his wife have two daughters: Mary C., born September 11, 1882, now the wife of Adolph Meincke, a farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township; and Clara, born May 28, 1888, who is the wife of George Jacobs, of Wabasha. Mr. Tiedemann is a member of the German Lutheran church.

**Adolph Meincke**, who owns and operates a fine 200-acre farm in section 19, Mt. Pleasant Township, which was a part of his parents' estate, was born in Florence Township, Goodhue County, Minn., June 6, 1881, son of Henry and Anna Meincke. The parents came to this country from Germany at an early day, and in 1889 they settled with their family in section 19, Mt. Pleasant Township, this county, Adolph being then about eight years old. He attended common or district school up to the age of 15, but had to work hard on the farm, following the drag when only nine years old. The father accumulated 600 acres of land all in one tract in Mt. Pleasant Township, which he divided among his three sons, Adolph getting the original home farm of 200 acres. Both his parents died on the farm, the mother being the first to depart, in 1905,



and the father, Henry Meincke, on July 15, 1919. The buildings on the place are well constructed and include a good two-story, ten-room frame house; a frame barn, 36 by 60 by 16 feet in size, with an 8-foot full basement and cement floors, with steel stanchions for cattle and running water; a granary with elevator 20 by 30 by 18; poultry house 16 by 30 by 10; corn house and garage 20 by 30 by 10; calf barn 20 by 28; machine shed 24 by 32 by 18; ice house, woodshed, summer kitchen and steel windmill. Mr. Meincke has 180 acres of his land under the plow; it is very fertile and produces good crops. His cattle are high grade Shorthorns and Jerseys and pure-blooded Herefords, all of which he raises on a profitable basis, as well as mixed grades of hogs. He has a good modern operating equipment and also owns a Hudson touring-car. A hard worker, he has been very successful and has a beautiful home with fine surroundings. Mr. Meincke was married August 15, 1904, to Mary Catherine Tiedemann, who was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, September 11, 1882, daughter of Henry and Catherine Tiedemann. They have two children: Aranda Henrietta, born March 6, 1905, now a student in the Lake City high school; and Loraine Geraldine, born December 29, 1906, who is also attending the high school. The family are members of the Belvidere congregation of the Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Meincke is a Republican.

**Albert L. Kimber**, proprietor of the Elgin Hotel in Elgin Village, was born in Rock County, Wis., near Janesville, December 30, 1847, son of William and Rosanna (Brundage) Kimber. William Kimber, the father, was a native of Orange County, New York, born November 20, 1815. In 1845 he moved to Wisconsin, and from that state, in 1854, to Amherst Township, Fillmore County, Minn. There he resided until 1891, when he moved to Burr Oak, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1904. His wife, Rosanna Brundage Kimber, was born October 3, 1820, and died at Burr Oak, Iowa, in 1891. They were the parents of the following named children: Emmit, Harriet, Sarah, Albert L., Isaac L., James, Amos, Ira, Henry and Mary. James, Amos, Emmit, Sarah and Mary are deceased. Albert L. Kimber was educated in a district school in Fillmore County, Minn. On April 4, 1865, he enlisted at Rochester, Minn., in Company H, First Minnesota Battery, and went out to fight for the preservation of the Union. The war, however, was then drawing to a close, so his service was limited. Moreover, he was taken sick and was discharged from the hospital August 3, 1865. In his 26th year he married and for many years thereafter followed the trade of a mechanic. Subsequently he was engaged in farming in Viola Township, Olmsted County, and after that resided for some years in Minneapolis to give his children the benefit of better educational advantages. In 1916 Mr. Kimber came to Elgin and became proprietor of the Elgin Hotel, which he is now engaged in operating. He keeps a neat and well ordered place and has become well and favorably known to the traveling public. In addition to the hotel he and his wife are conducting a grocery and crockery store adjoining. The marriage of Albert L. Kimber occurred October 30, 1873, uniting him with Cordelia Pratt, who was born near Topsham, Vt., October 30, 1854, daughter of John F. and Elizabeth Ann (Richardson) Pratt. Her parents were both natives of Vermont, the father born February 2, 1820, and the mother July 18, 1830. They were married May 20, 1852, and settled in Wisconsin, from which state they came by wagon in 1862 to Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn., buying the O. Ferguson farm, where Mr. Pratt was engaged in dairy farming. They had five children: Cora A., born February 6, 1853, who married Niles Blodgett, and died March 1, 1870; Cordelia E., born October 30, 1854, now Mrs. Albert L. Kimber; Clara O., born February 21, 1858, who died December 2, 1863; Sarah R., born March 30, 1862, who died September 3, 1878; and Guilford J., born September 28, 1866, now residing in Elgin Village. Mr. and Mrs. Kimber are affiliated with the Universalist church, and are among the well known and respected residents of Elgin. Mrs. Kimber is also a member of the Eastern Star Chapter. They have had three children: Alberta









GEORGE J. MEINCKE AND FAMILY



Rose, born February 10, 1877, who died March 21, the same year; Jennie Louise, born August 23, 1879, now Mrs. George R. Turner of Minneapolis; and Avis Lulu, born June 17, 1885, now Mrs. Paul Wing, of Elgin Village.

**Julius A. Behrns**, a well known and respected citizen of Oakwood Township, engaged in general agriculture and stock raising on a farm of 310 acres in section 19, was born on his father's farm in section 30, this township, August 28, 1874. His parents were Hans and Margaret (Schacht) Behrns, natives of Germany, who came to this country when young, the father at the age of 18 years and the mother at that of eight. They were married in Olmsted County, and in 1862 settled on a farm in section 30, Oakwood Township, Wabasha County. The farm contained 160 acres, to which Hans Behrns added until he had 280 acres. He retired in March, 1920, and took up his residence in Minneapolis, where he is now living on Thomas street. Julius A. Behrns acquired his elementary education in the Bremen District School, and later attended the Rochester High School. Until the age of 23 years he remained on his parents' farm, and then went to Lac Qui Parle County, where he bought a farm of 160 acres, which he operated for four years. He then sold it and moved to a farm of 146 acres belonging to his father in section 9, Elgin Township, which he worked for 15 years, or until the fall of 1919, when he took possession of his present farm of 310 acres in section 19, Oakwood Township. He follows general farming, including the raising of sugar beets, and stock breeding, keeping pure-bred Hampshire hogs. He belongs to the Elgin Shipping Association, and his operations are being conducted on a successful basis, redounding to his own benefit and identifying him as a factor in the agricultural development of the county. Mr. Behrns was married January 20, 1892, to Bertha Hein, of Elgin Township, the issue of this marriage being five children, namely: Elenora, born in Lac Qui Parle County, November 4, 1899, who is the wife of Leslie Wood, of Winona; Ezra E., born July 22, 1900; Delbert, March 5, 1902; Sylvia, January 23, 1906, and Arthur, May 19, 1908. The Behrns family are affiliated religiously with the Lutheran church.

**John M. Schmeideberg**, who is prosperously engaged in general farming and stock raising in Elgin Township, was born in Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn., September 9, 1880, son of William and Julia Schmeideberg. The parents, who were natives of Germany, are now deceased, William Schmeideberg having died in 1901, and his wife on June 2, 1908. John M. in his boyhood attended district school in Viola Township, Olmsted County, and Elgin Township, Wabash      oo days were over, he worked for his father until 1908, and then rented a farm in Plainview Township, where he lived for one year. In 1909 he moved to Elgin Township, to the farm of 120 acres in section 29, known as the Schroeder estate, where he is now carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has brought the farm into good condition and is doing a successful business. He has also served 11 years as a member of the school board in District No. 77, Elgin Township, thereby showing his usefulness as a citizen. His religious affiliations and those of his family are with the Lutheran church. Mr. Schmeideberg was married April 29, 1909, to Mrs. Olga Sterich Schroeder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sterich. His household includes three children of his wife by her first husband, namely: Elmer Schroeder, born May 14, 1903; Ezra Schroeder, born January 27, 1905; and Elvira Schroeder, born February 27, 1907. To Mr. and Mrs. Schmeideberg two children have been born: Erma L., July 19, 1911; and Marguerite, November 3, 1914.

**George J. Meincké**, a practical and successful farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township, residing in section 30, was born in West Florence Township, Goodhue County, Minn., September 1, 1876, son of Henry and Anna (Tomsforde) Meincké. He attended school in his native county and also in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, coming here with his parents in 1891. For a number of years he was associated with his father in the development of the farm on which he now resides, and of which he is the present owner. It has an



area of 240 acres, all in section 30, and all productive land, of which 200 acres are under the plow. Mr. Meincke is operating it as a grain and stock farm, keeping Hereford cattle, of which he has from 40 to 50 head, with about the same number of swine. He milks on an average of seven cows and is a patron of the Belvidere creamery. His buildings, all good and substantial, include a two-story, ten-room, frame-house, gas-lighted; a frame barn 32 by 74 by 16 feet, with an 8-foot stone basement; a granary and elevator 28 by 40 by 12, together with a and wash house. The farm is beautifully situated and is about ten miles from Lake City, while the operating equipment, besides the usual machinery, all of modern type, includes a fine Hudson auto car. Mr. Meincke was married November 11, 1903, to Emma Miller, who was born August 3, 1876, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, of Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Maynard J., born October 30, 1904; and Harry H., born June 14, 1909. The family are members of the Lutheran church at Belvidere. Politically Mr. Meincke is a Republican.

**Carl Siewart**, proprietor of a farm of 305 acres in section 19, Elgin Township, was born in Germany, December 27, 1848, a son of John Siewart and wife. Educated in his native land, he came to America in 1890, locating at Hammond, Wabasha County, Minn. His first three years in this locality were spent working on farms. During that period he practiced economy, saving his money, and for four years subsequently he followed agriculture on his own account on rented farms. In 1897 he bought his first farm property—a farm of 80 acres near Hammond—on which he lived for nine years. He then sold it and purchased a farm of 240 acres, 160 of which lie in Elgin Township and 80 in Oakwood Township. On that place he did mixed farming until 1914, when he again sold, buying his present farm of 305 acres in section 19, Elgin Township, which is now managed by his son, Mr. Siewart's health not permitting him to work. Mr. Siewart was married March 18, 1899, to Elizabeth Schucart, and he and his wife have four children: Albert W., born April 9, 1900; Charles A., September 21, 1902; Emil R., July 29, 1904; and Ida A., August 31, 1907.

**Julius E. Stage**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Elgin Township, was born in Posen, Germany, September 17, 1869, son of Paul and Minnie (Paul) Stage. He was educated in his native land, where he remained until 1885, when, as a boy of 16, he came to the United States, locating in Wabasha County, Minnesota. For a year he resided near Plainview, and subsequently worked on farms near Plainview and Elgin until 1894. In that year he began farming on his own account, renting 80 acres in Plainview Township, which he operated for a year. He then rented a farm of 100 acres in Elgin Township for about two years, and after that for some time lived in Elgin Village, doing farm labor in the vicinity. Then going to Olmsted County, Mr. Stage rented a farm near Eyota, which he operated for five years, and after that for an equal length of time he worked a rented farm near Potsdam. In 1913 he bought his present farm of 200 acres in section 18, Elgin Township, on which he has made substantial improvements, having in 1916 built a good barn, and in 1919 a ten-room modern residence, electrically lighted, as are all the principal buildings on his place. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, and as a citizen stands high in the community. Religiously he is a German Lutheran. On January 21, 1894, Mr. Stage was united in marriage with Minnie Gusa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gusa of Elgin Village. Eleven children are the issue of this marriage, who were born as follows: August R., June 2, 1896; Alvina B., November 8, 1897; Edna E., July 22, 1899; Alma E., February 17, 1900; Lillie L., October 17, 1901; Albert F., April 8, 1904; Nora M., January 24, 1906; Minnie S., March 25, 1907; Reuben G., born March 11, 1909; Leona M., August 30, 1911; and Mildred E., February 9, 1917.

**William Schacht**, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on a farm of 160 acres in section 19, Elgin Township, of which township he is a prominent citi-









EMIL SCHWANTZ AND FAMILY



zen, was born in Winona, Minn., July 22, 1859, son of Claus and Anna (Holing) Schacht. He acquired his education in a district school near Potsdam, Olmsted County, and for a number of years thereafter worked for his father. In 1881 he began farming on his own account, buying 160 acres in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, on which he built a house, barn and outbuildings, considerably improving the place during his residence there of 20 years. Selling it in 1901, he then bought his present farm, on which he is profitably carrying on general farming and stock raising. For 19 years he has served as clerk of District School Board No. 77, and has been its treasurer for nine years. Mr. Schacht was married, July 12, 1880, to Minnie Boie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Boie. He and his wife have had 14 children, of whom twelve are now living, the record in brief being as follows: Lydia D., born July 12, 1881, now Mrs. William Witzke; Albert C., born January 23, 1883; Anna E., born September 2, 1884, now Mrs. William Weick; Herman S., born October 15, 1886, who died January 15, 1887; Benjamin W., born June 3, 1889; Harrison E., born August 3, 1891; Emma E., born October 11, 1893, now Mrs. Otto Wondrasch; Alma W., born February 13, 1896; Nora E., born September 3, 1898, now Mrs. Henry Wehrs; Erwin C., born September 30, 1900; Lloyd R., born July 30, 1903; Franklin, born May 30, 1905, who died June 3, 1906; Vera A., born June 9, 1906, and Rufus R., March 20, 1910.

**Prosper St. Jacque**, one of the earliest settlers in Wabasha Village, and for many years a farmer in Greenfield Township, where he is still residing a respected pioneer of this county, was born in Montreal, Canada, July 30, 1837, son of John and Florence (Buche) St. Jacque. He was educated in Canada and remained there until 1856, when, as a young man of nineteen, he came to Wabasha County, Minn., with the vanguard of the pioneers, settling in Wabasha Village. There he worked in a factory for a number of years, afterwards engaged in contracting for a few years, and later was employed on the river. In the year of his arrival in this county he had bought some land in Greenfield Township, and subsequently at various times he bought other tracts until he owned in all 800 acres. After giving up river work he was employed in farming and stock raising until he retired from active work. He has disposed of nearly all his property, deeding the last 90 acres to his son Woodruff. Mr. St. Jacque has been twice married: first on July 3, 1856, to Hilma La Point, who died January 12, 1872. By her he had six children, Xavier, Henry, Prosper, Jr., Rose, Helen and Philip, of whom the two last mentioned are now deceased. On March 4, 1878, Mr. St. Jacque married Mary Shank, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Shank of Minneiska. Of this second marriage also six children were born, Florence, Clara, Benjamin, Charles, Leon and Woodruff. Florence is now deceased. Woodruff, who is now on the home farm, taking care of his father and mother, was educated in the district school and in the school at Kellogg. When 18 years old he went to Canada, where he remained until 1913. After that he spent a year on the Pacific coast in Washington and Oregon, and then, in 1914, went to South Dakota where he remained until he enlisted in the U. S. army, December 7, 1917, becoming a member of the 495th Aero Squadron. He left for France, March 4, 1918, and was engaged in aero repair work near the front lines until he left France for home January 11, 1919, was discharged January 25, 1919, at Camp Dodge.

**Emil Schwantz**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Elgin Township, of which he is a well known and respected citizen, was born in Dodge County, Wis., September 7, 1864, son of Fred and Augusta Schwantz. He was educated in the schools of his home locality and subsequently worked for his father until 1885. During the next four years he worked on farms in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn.; but in 1889 he rented a farm and engaged in agricultural operations on his own account. Later he purchased his present farm of 240 acres in section 15, Elgin Township. On this he has made some valuable improvements, having built two large barns, a large and com-



fortable residence and a number of substantial outbuildings. His land is fertile and produces good crops, and as a stock raiser he is successfully breeding full-blooded Durham cattle and Duroc swine. Mr. Schwantz was united in marriage, December 6, 1888, with Augusta Reiter, who was born November 1, 1866, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Reiter. Of this union eleven children have been born, as follows: Lydia E., born February 21, 1890, who was married, November 28, 1918, to William Kurth of Plainview, and has one child, Donald W., born November 26, 1919; Alfred J., born March 19, 1892; Arthur F., born February 14, who died December 8, 1912; Leo, born July 25, 1896, who died August 21, 1896; Theodore W., born September 2, 1897, who died October 6, 1919; Leola H., born December 2, 1899; Annette A., born April 12, 1902; Walter G., born January 9, 1905; Reuben E., born April 18, 1908; Lester V., born February 14, 1910; and Elbert E., born June 1, 1912. As will be seen from the above dates, both Arthur F. and Lester V., were born on St. Valentine's Day.

Alfred J. Schwantz, on May 28, 1918, was drafted for service in the war with Germany. He reported at the court house at Wabasha at 2:00 o'clock P. M., and at 8:00 o'clock A. M. the next day left Wabasha for Camp Lewis, Wash. He rode three days, arrived in camp at 6:00 o'clock, did some drilling at this camp, and on June 19, 1918, left for Camp Kearney, Calif. In his own words: "We rode on the train three and a half days till we arrived in the camp. Here we were assigned to Company C, 160th Infantry; we lived in tents. This was the best camp that I was in. It was fine in California all the time that I was there. Here I got considerable training. On July 27, 1918, I left Camp Kearney, Calif., for Camp Mills, N. Y. This was quite a ride across the United States. I saw all kinds of country when riding. It took six and a half days to get to this camp. While riding on the cars some of the boys broke out with measles. Then we were put in the detention camp at New York. Here we stayed for twelve days, and our company went across. August 17, 1918, we left Camp Mills for Camp Merritt to get equipped for overseas duty. August 18, 1918, left Camp Merritt for Camp Mills, N. Y. August 21, 1918, left Camp Mills on the train for Hoboken, N. J., for the ship. Here we were assigned to Company G, 156th Infantry. August 22, 1918, the transport left at 10:30 P. M. for the overseas trip. The ship I went across in was a captured German ship, the second largest ship that they had. This ship was named President Grant. The eats that we got on this ship surely were good. Were on the water twelve days. On the morning of September 3, 1918, could see the coast of France. Left the ship at noon. Hiked out of Brest, France, about two miles and here we camped for a week in dog tents; here we got some of the first spring wine. September 8, 1918, left Brest, France—this was on a Sunday—in box cars. Here we got all kinds of beans and salmon to eat while riding in the box cars. We rode two and a half days; then we got off the train and lay outside that night in the rain, near some French village. Next morning we hiked about 30 miles, hiking till ten o'clock that night, all tired out and hungry. Here we stayed in a French farm house in the barns from September 11, 1918, to October 17, 1918. We had to drill every day. Then we left again on box cars on a three days' ride. After we got off the train we were transferred to the 32d Division, Co. A, 125th Infantry, and the same evening hiked toward the front, where we were in reserve for several days. November 1 we started to hike and followed up back of the lines as the grounds were gained by us. This was on the Verdun front in the woods. In the evening of the 10th we hiked to the front, lay low all that night, supposed to go over the top the next morning. At midnight orders came that we should wait till the next day and see which way the armistice was going; didn't do any fighting, only trying to keep out of the way from being hit by bullets. After eleven o'clock everything was quiet—seemed like a different world; then we hiked up to the German line, stayed around a few days, and were put into the army of occupation. On November 17, we started to hike to Germany, hiked a few days and came to Lonwy, France,



where we rested two days. Then we started to hike and went into Belgium and Luxemburg. Here we stayed and rested up for a week at a farmer's place, sleeping in barns and dog tents during the hikes so far. In Luxemburg we spent Thanksgiving day. December 1st we crossed the German line, hiked to Andernacht, Germany, where we got shoes and clothes and whatever we needed. Some of the boys wore out their shoes and were barefooted for a few days. After we got fixed up we were like new soldiers again. Had a two days' rest here; then we hiked again and crossed the Rhine river, and hiked a few more days till we got to a dorf named Gullishiem (Germany), which finished our hike to December 14, 1918. All we had to do was guard duty, which was good pastime. I was promoted from a private to a first-class private while in Germany. Stayed in Gullishiem, Germany, till April 20, 1919, on Easter. Then we left for Niederberg in trucks, and loaded into box cars, they putting 21 boys to a cart. Left April 21, 1919, and arrived in Brest, France, April 24, 1919. Here we stayed till May 2, and left for the ship at Brest, homeward bound for America. We came back in five and a half days on the "Great Northern," unloaded on May 9, 1919, in Hoboken, N. J., then went to Camp Mills, N. Y., where we stayed several days. Here we received passes to go and see the City of New York. On May 18, 1919, left Camp Mills for Camp Dodge, Ia., and on May 21, 1919, I received my discharge."

**Henry G. Schroeder**, a prominent young farmer of Elgin Township, operating 219 acres of land, was born in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, October 11, 1886, son of Emil and Josephine (Brandt) Schroeder. He was educated in the village school of Elgin, Wabasha County, Minn., and became industrially active as a farm laborer, following that occupation in this vicinity until 1916. Then, with a laudable ambition, he started in for himself, renting the Campbell farm in Olmsted County, which he operated for three years. At the end of that time he bought his present farm of 219 acres in sections 26 and 35, Elgin Township, where he is successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising. He keeps good cattle and swine, the latter being of the Chester-White variety, with full-blooded sires at the head of his herds. He has a good house, silo, barns and outbuildings and his farm is well improved. Fraternally Mr. Schroeder is a member of the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star Chapter, while his religious affiliations and those of his family are with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Schroeder was married, February 21, 1907, to Mary E. Dunn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dunn. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Lincoln D., born February 12, 1909; Wayne A., March 13, 1911; Doris L., October 23, 1913, and Mary E., July 9, 1915. Emil Schroeder, father of Henry G. Schroeder, was born in the State of Wisconsin in 1860, and spent all his life in that state, where he died in 1893. His occupation was that of a farmer. His wife Josephine subsequently married Fred Dosdale and now lives at Hammond, Wis. By her marriage with Mr. Schroeder she had two children, Henry G. and Bertha. The latter is now the wife of Henry T. Swanson of Rochester.

**Joseph Henry Schurb**, who owns and operates a fine farm of 231 acres in section 33, Minneiska Township, was born on a farm in Iowa, a few miles south of Dubuque, November 29, 1851, son of Matthew Joseph and Elizabeth (Trout) Schurb. The parents, who were natives of Feltzen, Germany, were married in their native land, and came to the United States in 1850, settling at once in Iowa, where an uncle of Mrs. Schurb resided. After remaining there two years, they removed to Minneiska, Wabasha County, Minn., and homesteaded the quarter section of land on which the subject of this sketch now resides (Range 9, Township 109). The land was all wild, and the numerous Indians in the vicinity went about in summer time in a state of nature, having no use whatever for clothing. The Schurb family began operations with no stock but one cow and one or two pigs. From a man named Burns, who lived in Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, they hired a team of oxen to drag the logs with



which to build a small house, erecting it on a piece of table land some distance back from the river, and in the immediate vicinity of a small spring. A number of years afterwards, about the time the railroad was in process of construction, this house burned down, and the family then moved into a granary which they had recently built and in which they made their home for a time, until a new house could be erected. During the early period they possessed no machinery, and all the work, even the hardest, had to be done by hand, including a considerable amount of timber felling and grubbing. Still they made gradual progress, though suffering many hardships unknown to the younger generation, and barns and other buildings were in course of time erected. With the advent of machinery they made better progress, though this advantage cost them something in addition to the money spent, as about 1890 their barns were burned down, being ignited by a spark from a threshing-machine. They were, however, rebuilt, and the house improved and enlarged, and today the farm presents all the appearances of thrift and prosperity. In addition to the house, to which two L's have been added, there is a good cow barn 24 by 50 feet, with 16-foot posts, a basement barn for horses, 24 by 40 feet, with 12-foot posts, a good granary, milk-house, hay shed, machine-shed and corncrib, and a stave silo, built five years ago, 14 by 30 feet. Matthew J. Schurb, the father, who established the place and developed it into a fairly good property, died some twenty years ago, being survived by his wife, who passed away about 1907. They had in all nine children, all of whom, however, died young but three, and of these three the subject of this sketch is the only one now living. He, Joseph H. Schurb, now one of the leading farmers of his township, obtained such education as he could in the district school, when he was able to attend it, but his agricultural training was very thorough, and he learned many things which the farmers of the present day are not called upon to perform, and of which the younger generation know nothing. In course of time he came into possession of the home place, which he has still further improved, with the help of his wife and children, who are fully endowed with habits of thrift and industry. He is a man who has always fulfilled his obligations, and who takes pride in the fact that his word is recognized to be as good as his bond, his verbal promise being taken for all that it implies by those who know him. He was married January 7, 1879, to Dora Heaser, who was born in Trout Valley, Winona County, Minn., April 8, 1860, daughter of Joseph and Anna (Westline) Heaser, her parents, of German origin, coming to this country from Alsace, France, about the middle of the last century. In their family were eight children, of whom four are now living: Anna, residing at Lake City, Minn., who is the widow of Mat Berg, and who has had nine children, one being now deceased; Dora, wife of Joseph H. Schurb; Joseph Frank, residing on the home farm, who married Frances Theis, and has five children; and Theresa, wife of John Siebenaler, and the mother of three sons and one daughter. To Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Schurb have been born five children: Anna Elizabeth, January 11, 1881; Frank Joseph, September 1, 1882; Theresa Mary, March 4, 1884; Elizabeth Matilda, December 3, 1888, and Olivia, May 2, 1891. Anna Elizabeth, who is single, resides at Mazeppa, Wabasha County. Frank Joseph, who lives on and now manages the home farm, married Mary Ilgen, of Hammond, Minn., who was born September 17, 1893, daughter of Peter and Mary Ilgen, has one child Bernard P., born August 18, 1919. Theresa Mary married Peter Marx, of Mazeppa, Minn., now resides in Olmsted County, this state, and has two children, Cecelia Anna and Monica Faviola. Elizabeth Matilda is the wife of Louis Welch, of Oak Ridge, Beaver Township, Winona County, and has three children, Dora Elizabeth, Theresa Viola and Beatrice Mary. Olivia married Edward Welch, brother of Louis, and has one child, Annabelle Theresa. Mr. Schurb and his family are members of the Catholic church, attending St. Mary's at Minneiska. He belongs to St. Joseph's Society, his wife to that of St. Anne, and their son Frank to the Knights of Columbus









CLEMMENS KOOPMAN AND FAMILY



and the Catholic Order of Foresters. As one of the men who have aided largely in developing the agricultural resources of Minneiska Township, Mr. Schurb is widely known and respected, and his record is well worthy of preservation in a volume devoted to the history of this locality. Though his early advantages with respect to education were limited, he possesses keen intelligence and easily recognizes the desirability of providing the younger generation with better opportunities than he himself enjoyed in his youth.

**Bernard Koopman**, who settled in Wabasha County in 1882, and in time carved out a good farm from what was practically a tract of wild land in Wabasha Township, was a native of Hanover, Germany, where he grew to manhood and married Caroline Schonoff. He and his wife remained in Germany for some years after their marriage, and then in 1882, with their four children—all they ever had—they emigrated to the United States, arriving in this country July 17, and coming directly to Wabasha County, Minnesota. In Pepin Township they rented the Lager farm on Pepin Hill, and were there four years, after which, for two years, they occupied the George Dickinson farm in Greenfield. But it was not in either of those localities that they made their permanent home, but in Wabasha Township, where in 1889 Bernard Koopman bought 140 acres of land in section 5. But little of the land was broken, and a log house was the only building. With the assistance of his wife and children, Mr. Koopman set to work to develop a farm, a task which he successfully accomplished. When he arrived in Wabasha County from Germany he had just enough money to purchase a cow, but through hard work, perseverance and frugality, he became the owner of a fertile and well stocked farm, on which he and his wife spent the rest of their days. Mr. Koopman became a naturalized American citizen and joined the Democratic party. He died February 21, 1907, and his wife on September 9, 1915. Their four children were: Clemmens, subject of this sketch; Joseph, residing in Wabasha; Theresa, now Mrs. Joseph Burrichter, of Greenfield Township, and Bernard, Jr., of Wabasha.

**Clemmens Koopman**, who is prosperously engaged in agriculture on a farm in section 5, Wabasha Township, which was the home of his parents, was born in Hanover, Germany, May 17, 1866, son of Bernard and Caroline (Schonoff) Koopman. When a boy of 16 years he accompanied his parents to Minnesota, and was able to be of use to his father when the family settled on a farm in Pepin Township, and afterwards on the Lager farm in Greenfield Township, both of which they rented, the former for four years, and the latter for two years. Then Bernard Koopman bought the farm on which his son, Clemmens, now lives, and which the latter helped to develop. After the father's death in February, 1907, he bought the farm, and has since continued its development, having built a comfortable two-story brick house, a good frame barn, corn-crib, hoghouse, tool-sheds and silo. The buildings are all good, and the soil fertile. The farm contains 208 acres in section No. 5, and Mr. Koopman is doing a good general farming business, giving his chief attention to stock raising, his farm products being fed to the stock. His cattle are grade Holsteins and his hogs of the Duroc Jersey breed. He has an adequate equipment, including a good auto, and is successful as a farmer and respected as a reliable citizen and good neighbor. He was clerk of School District No. 5 for six years, is stockholder in the Wabasha Creamery and Telephone Company, and a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association. Mr. Koopman was married October 16, 1897, to Lena Margaret Passe, daughter of Albert and Mary Passe, of Glasgow Township, where she was born March 18, 1878. He and his wife are the parents of six children: Albert B., born October 25, 1899; Celia E., November 22, 1901; August J., November 23, 1903; Rosa Margaret, February 10, 1905; Dena Christine, November 5, 1907; and Dorothy Marie, May 2, 1915. All are residing on the home farm. Mr. Koopman and his family are Catholics in religion and members of St. Felix' parish at Wabasha.

**George Schurhammer**, who for 36 years has been engaged in farming and stock raising in Greenfield Township, of which he is now a well to do citizen,



was born in Baden, Germany, April 21, 1852, son of Joseph and Madeline (Trechler) Schurhammer. The parents, born in Germany, came to America in the early fifties, and settled in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1855, Joseph Schurhammer subsequently being engaged in agriculture here until his death July 2, 1901. His wife had passed away before him, in 1896. They were members of the Catholic church. They had nine children, of whom the three first born, Andrew, Andrew (second) and Albert, are deceased. The survivors are George, Joseph, Christ, August, Minnie and Lawrence. George Schurhammer acquired his education in the district school. For some years he worked for his father on the home farm, and later was employed on the river. In 1876 he began farming for himself, buying 80 acres in Greenfield Township. This farm he later sold and went to Montana, where he remained several years. In 1884 he purchased his present farm of 500 acres in Greenfield Township, lying in sections 13 and 18, on which he has erected all the buildings, in addition to fencing it. He has pursued an industrious career and made good financial progress. He has also rendered public service as a member of the school board of his district. In religion he is a Catholic. Mr. Schurman was married February 12, 1876, to Anna Braun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Braun. Her parents, natives of Baden, Germany, emigrated to America in 1852, landing at New York. After spending three years in New Jersey, they came, in 1855, to Wisconsin, settling in Stockholm, where Mr. Braun worked as a wagonmaker for two years. In the early sixties they bought a farm north of Pepin, where they resided until 1871. They then came to Wabasha County, Minn., purchasing 160 acres of land in sections 11 and 12, on which Mr. Braun erected buildings and fences and engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1908 he sold the farm, but continued to reside in Greenfield Township until his death in 1913. His wife died in 1915. Their children were Simon, Bertha, Anna, Emma, Ida, Richard, Robert, Katherine and Otto. Richard and Otto are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Schurman have a family of seven children, who were born as follows: Louisa J., October 28, 1876; Gustav G., February 16, 1878; Simon H., April 7, 1880; Boda W., December 14, 1881; Roy W., June 13, 1888; Phillip H., July 30, 1890, and Reuben C., March 4, 1892. Louisa is now the wife of Robert Sutter; Gustav resides in Minneapolis; Simon H. and Reuben in Wabasha; Boda and Phillip in Greenfield, as well as Roy, who is on the home farm.

Carl Marx, an early settler in Pepin Township, of which he was for many years one of the most industrious and respected citizens, and the developer of a good farm, was born in Germany, December 28, 1845. He was educated in his native land and came to America in 1867, settling at once, after arriving at Wabasha, in Pepin Township, five and a half miles northwest of the then small village. His land, consisting of 80 acres, lay in section 27, and was all wild, there being no buildings. He at once commenced the work of grubbing and clearing and the erection of buildings, and in time developed a good farm, one of the best in the township. One of these buildings was a granary which he used for awhile for a residence. In 1869 Mr. Marx went to Illinois, where he worked as a farm hand one year. He then returned to his farm on Pepin Hill, this county and continued to improve it, when not working for others as a farm hand. It was in the year 1875 that he purchased the property, and in the following year, on May 30, he was married at Wabasha, by the Rev. James Trobec, now Catholic bishop at St. Cloud, to Margaret Klein, who was born in a Rhine province of Germany, January 30, 1855, and had come to this country with her parents at the age of 13 years. Mr. Marx became a successful farmer and one of the prominent citizens of his township, which he served as clerk for 21 years, besides being school clerk of District 3, for some years. In the fall of the year in which he was married, 1876, he built a good frame house, which he later enlarged and improved, and he also erected good substantial farm buildings. He kept a good grade of cattle and raised Duroc hogs, gradually increasing in prosperity until he was well to do. His disposition was quiet and retiring and



he always proved himself a good neighbor. Politically he was a Democrat, and in religion a Catholic. His death took place on the farm, October 27, 1919, and was an event much regretted in the locality, where he was highly respected. Mr. and Mrs. Marx were the parents of a large family, numbering 14 children, namely: Mary, born May 23, 1877; Anna Catherine, November 19, 1878; Nicholas, August 1, 1880; John, February 22, 1882; William John, July 8, 1883; Magdalena, November 21, 1885; Frederick and Michael (twins), October 5, 1891; Bertha Eva, August 17, 1893; Catherine O., October 17, 1895; Louis Mathias, February 16, 1898; Leo, October 26, 1899. Four of the children died in infancy: Charles, on August 5, 1888; Frederick, May 3, 1892; Louis, February 20, 1898; and Leo, March 12, 1900. Mary is now Mrs. Frank Pulles of Glasgow Township. Anna Catherine is unmarried and residing at home. John is a carpenter in Wabasha. William John, who is unmarried, is operating the home farm for his mother. Magdalena, who taught school eight years in Wabasha County, is the wife of Leo Passe, a retired farmer of Wabasha. Mary Margaret, who taught school six years, is now Sister Charlotte of Notre Dame Convent at Mankato. Michael, now a resident of Sandusky, Ohio, served two years in the World War. Going out as a private, he was promoted to corporal, was employed in the Central Record office in clerical work, trained at Camp Lewis, Washington, about five months, and after going across, saw service at Tours and Bourges in France, being abroad 19 months. On his return he was sent to Camp Merritt and from there to camp in Wyoming, where he was discharged in September, 1919. Bertha Eva, who is living at home, is engaged in stenographic and office work for Nicholas Marx, a cousin. Catherine O. taught four years in the Wabasha public schools. Magdalena, Margaret and Bertha Eva all graduated from St. Felix high school, all having good records. Catherine also graduated there, and in addition from the normal Training Department of the Wabasha High School, being a member of the Class of 1916. Mrs. Marx, who survives her husband, is still living on the home farm, where also reside her children, William, Anna and Catherine.

**John Merkens**, proprietor of a farm in section 6, Mt. Pleasant Township, and who also holds the office of town assessor, was born in Hanover, Germany, June 17, 1872, son of John and Metta (Meyer) Merkins. He came with his parents to the United States in 1882, their first location being in Florence Township, Goodhue County, Minn., where they remained until 1894, engaged in farming. In the year last mentioned they removed to Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, and soon after the father, John Merkens, Sr., died. His wife, who was born in Germany, February 18, 1835, is still living and resides with her son, the subject of this sketch. He, John Merkens, Jr., acquired a common school education, but had to begin work at an early age. He was associated in agriculture with his father, and later became the owner of an 80-acre farm in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, which he stills owns. In 1913, he then bought his present farm of 80 acres in section 6, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, which then had no buildings, though the land was improved. It is situated seven miles and a half from Lake City, and has a fertile soil, which is well tilled and produces good crops. Mr. Merkens has erected a comfortable two-story, eight-room, frame house, and other necessary buildings, and as a general farmer, with a good operating equipment, is meeting with success. He has served as town assessor for over five years, and is a highly respected citizen of his township. He was married June 30, 1901, to Mary Hinck, daughter of John and Anna (Cordes) Hinck, of Mt. Pleasant Township. She died February 15, 1902, and Mr. Merkens has not remarried. He is a Lutheran in religion and a member of Emanuel congregation at West Florence, Goodhue County. He was the fifth born child of his parents, and all his brothers and sisters are now living. Those older than himself, in the order of birth, are: Catherine, a resident of Goodhue County; Metta, now Mrs. James Ashton, of Pasco, Wash.; and Anna, wife of L. H. Roschen, of Mt. Pleasant



Township. The younger are: Ella, now Mrs. William Stevenson of Waulula, Wash.; Christopher, of Maiden Rock, Wis.; and Henry of Mt. Pleasant Township.

**Charles Elmer Nygren**, one of the popular and successful young farmers of Mt. Pleasant Township, is a native son of this county, having been born in Gilford Township, January 8, 1883, son of Charles J. and Maria (Johanson) Nygren. He attended the district schools of his neighborhood, and for two years was grounded in the fundamentals of a thorough commercial education in the Lake City Business College. He worked with his father until 1903, when he started on his own responsibility by renting 120 acres of his father's farm. He now operates 240 acres on a successful scale, and makes a specialty of high class stock, his herd including a dozen pure blooded Shorthorns and about 40 high grades. He also has a drove of from 25 to 50 pure bred Duroc-Jersey hogs. His place is a little more than five miles from Lake City, is kept in the highest stage of cultivation, and is well equipped with machinery, tools and implements. Mr. Nygren is an energetic, successful young man, popular in the community, and a thorough believer in modern methods of agriculture. He is a Democrat in general principles but reserves the right of private judgment as to men and policies in all elections, and although keenly interested in all public affairs he has never cared to seek political office. Mr. Nygren was married February 14, 1911, to Isabelle Edna Roberson, who was born January 19, 1889, daughter of Frank and Sarah (Whitcomb) Roberson, of Gillford Township, and this union has been blessed with three children: Norman Elmer, born June 26, 1912; Ruth Edna, born November 18, 1914, and Neil Wyman, born June 9, 1918. The family attends the Episcopal church.

**Carsten Meyer**, who was for a number of years a well known and respected resident of Gillford Township, was a native of Germany, where he learned the carpenter's trade and was married to Anna Martens. About 1885 he came with his family to Wabasha County, Minn., and settled on a farm in Gillford Township, on which he erected the buildings. As his sons and daughters were mostly grown up and were strong and sturdy, he left them to work the farm while he followed his trade. He was himself a man of exceptional size, being six feet four inches in height, and powerful in proportion. He spent 28 years on the farm, dying February 13, 1911. His wife survived him a few years, passing away in March, 1913. Their children, ten in number, were: Carsten, now living in Lake City; Henry A., of Mt. Pleasant Township; Claus of Lake City; Mary, wife of Peter Hoeft; Catherine, wife of William Kohrs of Gillford Township, now dead; Anna, now Mrs. Kriett of Lake City; Margaret, wife of Max Wimmer of Gillford Township; Alice, who is Mrs. Carsten Reckmann, and Ellen, who is the wife of Henry Bennett of Goodhue County and John of Mt. Pleasant Township.

**Henry A. Meyer**, whose work along agricultural lines has raised him to a high place among the prosperous farmers of Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, March 10, 1871, son of Carsten and Anna (Martens) Meyer. He was 14 years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States, and until the age of 26 years he resided on their farm in Gillford Township. In 1895, with his brother Claus, he bought an improved farm of 240 acres in section 34, Mt. Pleasant Township, all the land being under the plow, and the farm having a fair set of buildings. Together they farmed the land until 1908, and having built a good set of buildings on the north half, they divided the farm, the brother, Claus, taking the north half of 120 acres, and Henry A. the south half of the same area. The land is highly cultivated and is productive, and Henry A. Meyer had a herd of 40 to 50 high grade Shorthorn cattle and a herd of 20 to 30 Poland-China swine. He remodeled the frame barn, and it is now equipped in modern style with the James system of steel stanchions, cement floors and gutters, and with water in every stall. There is a 9-foot basement for horses and cattle, a crane manure-carrier and other appliances and the King





C. E. NYGREN AND FAMILY







ventilating system has been installed. There is also a cream separator room. The equipment of tools and machinery is fully adequate and includes an auto car. Through hard work and good management Mr. Meyer made rapid progress and achieved success. He continued actively at work until 1919, when he leased the farm to his son Roy and moved to the Claus Meyer farm. His political principles have been Republican but he is now a member of the Non-Partisan League. On September 26, 1897, Mr. Meyer was married to Margaret, daughter of Henry and Margaret Heitmann of Gillford Township. He and his wife have two children: Roy Carsten, born May 1, 1898, who was married September 12, 1919, to Irene, daughter of Henry and Margaret Bremer of Lake Township; and Elsie A., born March 8, 1901, who is residing at home. The family are members of the Lincoln congregation of the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Meyer is a liberal supporter.

**Gottlieb Wagner**, a retired farmer residing in Kellogg, where he and his wife are well known and highly respected, was born in Saxony, Germany, October 28, 1842, son of Valentine and Elizabeth Wagner. The parents, who never left their native land, are now deceased. Of their five or six children, Gottlieb was the only one to emigrate to the United States, accompanying the family of a neighbor to this country in 1867. A short time was spent with them in Wisconsin, where he worked on a ferry. Then, in the same year, he came to Minnesota, locating in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, where for eight years he worked as a farm hand. Having by that time saved some money, he bought 160 acres of timber land in the same township, and began the work of clearing and developing a farm, which he ultimately accomplished in a very thorough manner. On that same place he resided for 45 years, or until 1908, when, finding himself in possession of an ample competence, he retired and took up his residence in Kellogg. The improvements on his farm include a nine-room house; a basement barn, 38 by 58 feet in ground dimensions; a hog house, chicken house, and other necessary buildings, and he always kept the farm well stocked with a good grade of cattle and swine. Mr. Wagner's education was obtained chiefly in Germany, but he attended English school two years after coming to this country. He long ago became a good American, and has rendered public service, having been a village trustee ever since coming to Kellogg, except during one year, and having formerly served one year as supervisor of Glasgow Township and many years as school clerk. He is a stockholder in the local Telephone Company and the Theilman State Bank. Politically he is a Republican and in religion a Catholic. Mr. Wagner was married January 30, 1871, to Mary Graff, daughter of Francis and Barbara (Graff) Graff, of Glasgow Township, who had come with her parents to this township at the age of six years. Of this union eleven children have been born, eight of whom are now living, namely: Bertha, wife of Robert Funk; Clara, wife of Joe Lachafel; Matilda, now Mrs. Walter Wolf, of Greenfield; Lillian, who married Francis Gilcreast of Kellogg; Lawrence, who married Mary Schierts; Lewis, who married Maggie Kling and lives in Montana; and Edward, who married Clara Merion of Wabasha. Those deceased are Albert, Celie and John. Francis and Barbara Graff, parents of Mrs. Gottlieb Wagner, were born in Alsace-Lorraine, and came to the United States in 1856. They were among the pioneers of Glasgow Township, and in early days suffered many privations, having to grind meal in a coffeemill, and carry provisions on their backs from Wabasha, twelve miles away, there being few oxen then in the county. On their way to this county they had stopped for a while at Galena, Ill., where they remained until 1857, when they came to this county. After the passage of the homestead laws, Mr. Graff homesteaded his farm, but was not long spared to work on it, as he died in 1869. His wife survived him half a century, passing away at the venerable age of 92 years on April 8, 1919. They had nine children, five of whom are living: Susie, wife of John Schuweiler, residing on the home homestead; Mary,



wife of Gottlieb Wagner; Elizabeth, wife of George Strang of South Dakota; Garrett F., of the same state, and Joseph, of Kellogg, Minn.

**John Walch**, vice president of the First State Bank of Elgin, and a business man of high standing and wide reputation, was born in Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, Minn., July 13, 1876. His parents were Nicholas and Clara (Kemp) Walch, the father born in Luxemburg and the mother in Ohio. Nicholas Walch came to America in 1858, and his marriage to Clara Kemp occurred at Dubuque, Ia., where for several years he was engaged in the livery business. In 1864 he moved to Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, and bought 240 acres of government land at \$1.25 an acre. The tract was covered with heavy timber, which took a considerable time and plenty of hard work to clear, but the task was finally accomplished and a fine farm developed, the size of which Mr. Walch increased to 1,400 acres by additional land purchases. There he resided, continuing the work of improvement until his death in 1899. His widow is now a resident of Winona. They had 13 children, some of whom are now deceased, the survivors being Henry and Nicholas (twins), Roman, John, Francis, Laura, Kate, Aloysious and Cecil. John Walch acquired his elementary education in the school of his district, Winona County, and later attended public school in Winona City. In 1898, in partnership with J. Schlingerman, of Winona, he engaged in the dry goods business there under the firm name of Schlingerman & Walch, and continued as a member of the concern until 1902. In that year Mr. Walch entered the Merchants Bank at Winona and remained there until 1904, when he came to Elgin and accepted the position of cashier of the First State Bank, which he held until 1920, when he was elected vice president. He is also a director in the First State Bank at Rollingstone and is financially interested in farm land in Olmsted County. His business career has been progressive and has broadened out, with still greater promise for the future. For 15 years Mr. Walch has been a member of the village council and has served as its president. Fraternally he belongs to Rochester Lodge, No. 1091, B. P. O. E. A man of sound judgment, and upright in all his transactions, he is highly respected in the community. On October 25, 1904, Mr. Walch was united in marriage with Leona Steichen, who was born at Northwood, Ia., March 25, 1879. They have an adopted child, Jean, who was born February 22, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Walch are members of the Catholic church.

**Michael Schneider**, now living retired on a farm in Highland Township, which he formerly operated, has had a long and varied experience as farmer and merchant and proved his capacity in both lines of industry. He was born in Lorraine, France, May 5, 1853, son of John P. and Mary C. (Florange) Schneider. The family came to this country when Michael was about two and a half years old, settling near Milwaukee, where John P. Schneider established himself in business as a stave maker, being thus engaged in that vicinity for ten years. In 1865 he moved with his family to Winona County, Minn., arriving there October 10, and buying 80 acres in the town of Jefferson, now Norton. Having erected a small shack, he started to develop a farm, the whole family taking part in the grubbing and clearing. In the spring of 1866, with two yoke of oxen, he broke 50 acres, and two years later he broke 50 more. There he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, he passing away in 1873, and she in 1901, at the age of 78. Before his death he gave his son, Michael, 80 acres, the latter having to pay the heirs what the farm cost when wild—\$10 per acre. Mr. and Mrs. John P. Schneider had eight children, of whom six are now living: Margaret, widow of Christ Simon, residing two miles northeast of St. Charles in Winona County; John P., a physician practicing at Bowman, N. D.; Mary, wife of John Schwitzer, of Mankato, Minn.; Catherine, wife of Peter Kartzmann of Hazleton, N. D.; Nicholas, who lives in Mankato; and Michael of Highland Township, Wabasha County. Michael Schneider remained on the home farm until he was 25 years old, in his boyhood attending the district school. He helped his father previous to the latter's death, and subse-





MICHAEL SCHNEIDER AND FAMILY







quently carried on the farm. In addition to the 80 acres which he had received from his father, he bought another 80-acre tract adjoining it, a third tract of the same size, part of the original farm, being retained as a homestead for the mother. In 1883 they sold the three eighties, and Michael went to Lewiston, where he engaged in the hardware business with a partner under the firm name of Schneider & Linden. He also acquired 140 acres adjoining town. After eight years he sold the land, and after ten years his interest in the store, and moved with his family to Rollingstone, where he resided nine years. In 1902 he came to Wabasha County and bought a farm of 160 acres in Highland Township, later added to it another tract of the same size, which gave him a farm of 320 acres, and later added 160 acres across the road in Plainview Township, making a farm of 480 acres. Here he engaged in general farming until 1916, when he retired and moved to Plainview, being a resident of that village until the fall of 1919. He then moved back to the farm, where he now resides, and which is carried on by his sons, Louis, Arnold and Edward, under the name of Schneider Brothers, the father and mother together keeping house for them. They have two nice residences, of eight and nine rooms respectively, with good barns and out-buildings on both farms. During his active career, both in Winona and Wabasha counties, Mr. Schneider identified himself closely with public interests and showed himself a public-spirited citizen. In Winona County he served as supervisor of the town of Norton, was treasurer of the school board of Lewiston, and was president of the village board of Rollingstone four years, during which time he inaugurated a number of local improvements. He has been a director of the Wabasha County Fair board for a number of years; is a director of the Farm Bureau Association of Wabasha County, and served many years as vice-president of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Religiously a Catholic, he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus and the Minnesota Benevolent Society. Mr. Schneider was married at Winona, Minn., May 15, 1878, to Bertha Jung, daughter of John P. and Catherine (Kohner) Jung. Her parents were natives of Luxemburg, who emigrated to Wisconsin, where their daughter, Catherine, was born, and subsequently to Winona County, Minn., where they became well to do farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Schneider have had ten children, eight of whom are living: John P., a practicing physician in Minneapolis and professor of materia medica in the University of Minnesota; Louis, Arnold, Edward and Lawrence; Mary, wife of William Dietrich of Rochester; Sedella, wife of Arthur Walch, residing on a farm near Plainview; and Catherine, who is living on the home farm. Those deceased were two daughters, each named Rosa, both of whom died in infancy. During the recent war, Edward N. enlisted in the U. S. Seventh Division, in the Veterinary Department, 14th Brigade, and served a year and three months in the United States and France, taking part in the engagements at Metz and in the Argonne. Lawrence also entered the U. S. service and was stationed at the Officers' Training School at Minneapolis when the war ended. Mr. Schneider and his sons are extensive breeders of blooded Holstein cattle, keeping a herd of registered cows and bulls; his Poland-China hogs are also full-blooded. He has one of the best farms in the township and he and his family are highly esteemed members of the community.

**W. B. Webb**, manager of the Wabasha Roller Mill Co., was born in Skowhegan, Maine, September 29, 1882, son of C. L. and Rachel P. (Steward) Webb. He acquired his preliminary education in the common and grade schools of his native town, was graduated from the high school in 1901, and was subsequently a student for four years at Bowdoin College. He then entered the employ of the International Banking Corporation in New York City, and after nine months' service there was transferred to the Philippine Islands, where he remained for three and a half years. In 1910 he resigned his position in order to come to Wabasha to accept a position with the Wabasha Roller Mill Co. In 1911 he was elected vice-president of the company, and in 1917 its manager, in which



capacity he is still serving efficiently. He is also identified with other important business enterprises, being secretary of the "Red Front" Flour & Feed Co., of Eau Claire, Wis., and a member of the board of directors of the Coppins & Lange Flour & Feed Co., of Rockford, Ill. During the recent World War Mr. Webb rendered useful and patriotic service as chairman of the third, fourth and fifth Liberty Loan drives in Wabasha County. He is a member of the Winona Country Club, also of the Wabasha Club and of the Philippine Club. In college he was a member of the D. K. E. Fraternity, while he is also connected with the Masonic Order, being a member of Wabasha Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M. of Wabasha. In both business and social relations Mr. Webb has proved himself a man of force and utility, of sound judgment, and of ready action when action is required. He has taken his place as one of the leading business men of the city, and he and his wife are popular members of Wabasha society. Mr. Webb was married June 15, 1910, to Mary W. Lawrence, of Wabasha, with whom he attends Grace Memorial Church. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Mary L. and William B., Jr.

**Marshall Charles Weir**, who spent a useful and active life in Greenfield Township, where he was highly respected and esteemed, was born in Tepeotah, Wabasha County, Minn., April 3, 1862, son of Marshall and Catherine (Doyle) Weir. His parents were farmers in this township and continued in that occupation until their death. Marshall C. was educated in the district schools here and for a number of years thereafter worked for his father. Subsequently he started in for himself, buying a farm of 160 acres, to which he later added more land until he was the owner of 334 acres, located in sections 25 and 30, Greenfield Township. On this place he made valuable improvements, erecting all the buildings and putting up fencing. He carried on general farming and stock raising with good success until his death on November 1, 1914. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of friends and relatives, and his loss was mourned by the entire community. Mr. Weir belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America, whose impressive burial service was used at his interment. His religious affiliations were with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Weir was married February 22, 1886, to Lillian Ingalls, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ingalls of Pine Island. Six children were the issue of this marriage, namely: William M., born Oct. 2, 1888; Edward M., September 14, 1889; Mae K., February 5, 1891; Cecil F., born February 5, 1895; Lyle E., October 20, 1896; and Hazel L., February 11, 1903. William M. is now a resident of Wisconsin. Mr. Weir was survived also by a brother Wm. Weir, of Downing, Wis., and a sister, Mrs. George Gammons, of Minneapolis.

**Paul J. Polson**, who until recently was numbered among the agricultural population of Oakwood Township, but is now living retired in Lake City, was born in Oakwood Township, January 14, 1875, son of Emeric and Sophia (Johnson) Polson. He was reared in that township, and at an early age had to assist his father on the farm, but attended District School 44 during the winters up to the age of nineteen. Until 1898 he continued to assist his father, but in that year a change occurred in his life, as he was united in marriage May 26, 1898, with Martha Nass, daughter of Holvar and Bertha Nass of Oakwood Township. In the spring of the same year he bought a farm of 133 acres in sections 16 and 21, Oakwood Township. It was an improved farm, but with poor buildings. In 1902 he bought 160 acres in section 22, which gave him a farm of 293 acres, of which he put 220 under the plow, leaving the remainder in pasture and timber. He also erected a good set of buildings. Mr. Polson carried on general farming, but gave his chief attention to stock raising, keeping from 65 to 70 head of grade Shorthorn cattle, and from 50 to 60 Chester-White hogs, also grade animals, his market being Millville, three and a quarter miles distant. He continued farming until November 1, 1919, when, having acquired a competence, he retired and took up his residence in Lake City, buying a fine house and three acres on Lyon avenue. He is a stockholder in the









JOSEPH SUILMANN AND FAMILY



Millville State Bank, and was treasurer of the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator, and was a stockholder in the Millville Co-operative Creamery. In politics Mr. Polson is a Republican. During his active career on the farm he was one of the most prominent citizens of his township and served ten years or more as chairman of the town board. His wife, who was born in Sweden, May 26, 1877, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Oakwood, to which Mr. Polson also belongs, and which he served as trustee for several years.

**Emil W. Reiter**, a retired farmer residing in Elgin Village, was born in Posen, Prussia, Germany, June 6, 1862. At the age of ten years, in 1872, with his parents, Fred and Ameliage (Myer) Reiter, he came to the United States, the family settling first in Buffalo, N. Y. In 1877 they came to Minnesota, locating in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, where Emil began working out on farms. By 1891 he had become a good, practical farmer, with ambitions looking to an independent career in that industry, and accordingly he rented a farm in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, where he resided until the following year. He then bought a farm of 160 acres in sections 7 and 8, Elgin Township, on which he made a number of valuable improvements, in 1913 building a basement barn 36 by 60 feet, and a good house and out-buildings. As a general farmer and stock raiser he made good progress and acquired a competence upon which he retired in 1918. The farm is now being operated by his son, Clarence. Mr. Reiter was married June 17, 1891, to Molly Boie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Boie, and the issue of this marriage is three children: Helen, born December 6, 1893, now Mrs. Oscar Benike of Rochester; Clarence, born August 17, 1896; and Elna, born May 26, 1905. Mr. Reiter and his family are members of the Lutheran church, and are well known and respected in Elgin and the vicinity. He is a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Elgin.

**Joseph Suilmann**, a prominent citizen of Pepin Township, who owns and operates an excellent farm of 240 acres in section 55, Pepin Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, October 13, 1873, son of Joseph and Caroline (Surmann) Suilmann, his parents being farmers. The father born in the early forties, died in 1909. The mother died in 1912. Each was about 65 years old. They had a family of four sons and three daughters: Herman, who is still in Germany, on the old farm; Joseph, the subject of this sketch, and Theresa, Anton, Wilhelmina, Gerhardt and Lacey, who are still living in Germany. Joseph Suilmann attended common school in his native land up to the age of 14, and remained on the home farm until he was 20. He was then obliged to enter the army and receive military training, being thus engaged for two years. After that he was again on the home farm until 1895, and subsequently was employed away from home. In the year 1900 Mr. and Mrs. Herman Passe of Wabasha County, Minn., visited Germany, and induced him to seek his fortune in America. Accordingly late in the year he set out and landed in New York, November 11. From that city he came on to Wabasha County, and here, or in this vicinity, during the following winter, found work in chopping wood for 75 cents a day, being thus employed many days when the thermometer was 30 or 32 below zero. This was a hard experience for a young man accustomed to a much milder climate, but he proved himself capable, and in the summer found work as a farm hand, receiving \$19 a month. He had reached Wabasha County with a cash capital of only \$25, but he got along and saved money, continuing to earn daily or monthly wages until 1905. By that time, having been economical, he was prepared to start in for himself, and did so by renting the Frank Welp farm of 120 acres on Pepin Hill. He now felt so sure of success that in the following spring, on May 10, 1906, he married Mary Passe, daughter of Herman and Anna Passe of Wabasha Hill, and they began domestic life together on the rented farm, where they remained for two years and a half. Then on September 11, 1908, Mr. Suilmann bought the old Roemer farm of 200 acres in section 35, Pepin Township, to which he has added 40 acres more making a farm of 240 acres. One hundred acres of the farm were then under the plow,



and there was a frame house on it but no barns. Mr. Suilmann therefore extemporized a barn by fitting up an old dilapidated log house for that purpose by adding a lean-to, where he kept his horses and cattle. He also greatly improved the frame house, and later built a modern frame barn, 36 by 72 by 12 feet, with full stone basement and cement floors, Hudson and Thurber stalls, and running water to every stall; also a granary, 16 by 40 by 8 feet in size, with machine sheds, corn cribs and other buildings. He also gradually supplied himself with all necessary tools and modern machinery. More recently he has set out a young orchard and erected a stave silo 14 by 34 feet, 100-ton capacity. He is now in the full tide of a prosperous career as a general farmer, having 40 to 50 head of grade Shorthorn cattle, and a herd of 40 to 50 Duroc swine. He also owns a fine five-passenger automobile. Mr. Suilmann's first wife, Mary, died January 2, 1909, leaving two children: Joseph Herman, born July 5, 1908, and Mary Anna, born November 9, 1909. Some time after that event Mr. Suilmann had a sickness which necessitated a hospital operation, and on his recovery, in September, 1910, he took a trip to Germany, being away ten weeks. During that time he was married to Marie Wilmers, daughter of Henry and Caroline Wilmers of Hanover, Germany, and brought his bride back with him to his Wabasha County farm. By her he has had five children: August Alfonso, born January 27, 1912; Walburga, September 11, 1913; Frances Regina, September 7, 1915; Vincent August, January 26, 1918 and Innocent Bernhard born December 28, 1919. Mr. Suilmann took out his last papers as an American citizen in 1911. He and his family are members of St. Felix parish, Wabasha.

**Carl F. Podein**, an active and enterprising farmer residing in section 12, Oakwood Township, was born in Germany, September 20, 1883, son of Carl and Sophia (Jacobs) Podein. The father was a native of France and the mother of Germany. They came to America, and to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1880, locating in Plainview Township, where they farmed for about 14 years, the father dying in 1894. His widow is now residing in Plainview. Their son, Carl F., was educated in the common and high schools of Plainview, and after relinquishing his studies worked for about a year on the home farm, after which he purchased his present farm of 217 acres in section 12, Oakwood. On this property he has built a good house, windmill, all the outbuildings except the granary, and in 1920 erected a modern barn, 36 by 82 feet, with full basement. His place is well stocked with Durham cattle, Chester-White swine and Shropshire sheep, and its production of stock and crops provide him with a good income. Mr. Podein was the first member of the Millville Co-operative Co., dealing in grain and all farm products. He was elected town supervisor in 1913, and through re-elections has served continuously in the same office ever since. A man of much energy, good business ability, and sterling common sense, he has proved himself a useful citizen and dependable town official and is widely respected. Mr. Podein was married August 16, 1905, to Clara A. Villwock, who was born August 20, 1881, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Villwock. Four children have come to brighten their home, namely: Clarence E., born June 20, 1906; August (deceased); Arthur C., born April 23, 1910, and John, born May 29, 1916. Mr. Podein and his family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church.

**George J. Pretzer**, a representative Wabasha County farmer, whose farm lies in three townships, was born in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., June 4, 1864, son of William and Caroline (Schultz) Pretzer. He acquired his education in a district school in Elgin Township, and worked for his father until 1894. For two years subsequently he operated a rented farm near Elgin Village, and after that, for a year, another farm south of Potsdam. In 1897 he bought the home farm of his father, consisting of 149 acres in section 5, Elgin Township, 40 acres in Oakwood Township, and 80 acres in Zumbro Township, making a total of 269 acres. In 1910 Mr. Putnam built a new basement barn, 34 by 50 feet, and in addition has a substantial and comfortable res-



idence and good outbuildings. As a general farmer and stock raiser, breeding high grade swine, he is making a financial success. He is a member of the school board of District No. 96, Elgin Township, and religiously is affiliated with the German Lutheran church. On December 5, 1895, Mr. Pretzer was married to Nettie Schuchard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schuchard. He and his wife have been the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living. Their record in brief is as follows: Arthur R. W., born August 18, 1896, was drafted into the U. S. Army May 28, 1918, becoming a member of the 308th Infantry Replacement Company. He sailed for France August 8, 1918, took part in the fighting in the Argonne Forest, was wounded September 28, 1918, and discharged March 24, 1919. He is now at home. George A., born November 30, 1897, was drafted into the army October 24, 1918, going to Camp Forrest, Ga., where he was stationed two months. He was discharged December 26, 1919, at Camp Dodge, Ia., and is now at home. Mabel T., born May 1, 1898, is residing at home and so is Clarence W., born January 23, 1900. Ella L., September 13, 1902, died April 4, 1917. The two youngest, who are on the home farm are: Gilbert E., born January 19, 1904; and Caroline A., born September 16, 1906, who died in 1908. William Pretzer, father of George J. Pretzer, was a native of Germany, who came to America in the early fifties, settling in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where he resided for the rest of his life except for thirteen years that he spent in South Dakota. After his retirement from active work he lived in Plainview Village until his death, which took place February 6, 1918. His wife Caroline died August 26, 1914. They were the parents of ten children, namely: William, George, Robert, Hulda, Martha, Lydia, Paul, Emma, Henry and Claire. Hulda is now Mrs. Frank Pagel of Rochester, Martha is the wife of George Dickman of the same place, Lydia is the wife of Carl Quale, Emma the wife of Louis Andrea, and Claire the wife of Laud Andrea. Henry is now deceased.

**Deidrich Dankers**, now living retired in Lake City, is a man who has had an active career as farmer and public official, and is well and favorably known over most of the county. He was born in Hanover, Germany, November 15, 1848, son of Peter and Anna Dankers, and was educated in the common schools in his native land. There he grew to manhood and was married April 18, 1869, to Marguerite Martin. For 10 years longer he remained in Germany, and then, in 1879, with his wife and three children, he emigrated to the United States, coming directly to Wabasha County, Minn. Here he at once turned his attention to the cultivation of the soil, renting the Thomas Morrow farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, which he worked for 15 years. In 1894 he bought of Mr. Morrow an improved farm of 120 acres, with fair buildings, on section 32, which he operated until 1906. He then retired, buying a comfortable residence in Lake City, at the corner of Dwelle and Sixth streets, where he has since made his home. On February 2, 1911, Mr. Dankers suffered a paralytic shock, as the result of which he has since been helpless, but otherwise enjoys good health. He was a very active and capable farmer, and very successful. He was also a prominent citizen of his township, serving as chairman of the town board for six years, and also for a number of years as assessor and on the school board. In 1901 and 1902 he built the first macadamized road in Wabasha County, extending from the foot of McCahill Hill to the boundary of Lake Township. His prosperity has been self-acquired, with the aid of his wife and children, as he had nothing when he arrived in this county. Moreover, during his early years on the farm, he made little, owing to the low price of produce, having to sell his barley at 17 cents, eggs at 5 cents, and butter at 8 to 10 cents. He and his wife have been the parents of nine children: Anna, Marguerite, Katherine, Henry, Charles, Peter, John, Fred and William, of whom the first three mentioned were born in Germany. Anna is now the wife of John Isendorf of Goodhue County. Katherine is the wife of Deidrich Klintworth of Chester Township, Wabasha County. Henry is a harness-maker at Glenwood,



Minn. Charles, born April 9, 1881, is a farmer in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County. Peter, born March 18, 1884, and John, born March 29, 1886, are farming in the same township as John. Fred is operating a farm in section 33, Mt. Pleasant Township. William, born January 19, 1898, was a grocer and musician in Lake City, but died from influenza November 11, 1918. His wife and three children are now residing in Lake City near the home of Mr. Dankers. The Dankers family are members of St. John's congregation (Lutheran) in Lake City, of which the subject of this sketch was a trustee for many years.

**Fred Dankers**, a general farmer of section 33, Mt. Pleasant Township, who within the last few years has made rapid strides in prosperity, was born in this township, January 2, 1889, son of Deidrich and Margaret (Martin) Dankers. In his boyhood he attended district school regularly up to the age of 15 years, and after that during the winters until the age of 17. After that he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked intermittently until 1912, residing on the home farm until 1906, and working on it when not engaged at his trade. On September 9, 1907, he married Leona, daughter of Peter and Adelia Merkens of Mt. Pleasant Township, and subsequently until 1913 lived on the Merkens' farm, working for his wife's brother, John Merkens, with Mrs. Dankers as housekeeper. In 1913 Mr. Dankers leased the Lewis farm of 240 acres in section 33, Mt. Pleasant Township, which he is still operating, being engaged in general farming, in which he is a thorough adept. He has a good operating equipment and is profitably raising high grade Shorthorn cattle, of which he keeps from 30 to 40 head, and Poland-China hogs, of which he has 40 to 50 head, with full blooded sires at the head of both herds. His political principles have caused him to join the Non-partisan League, and he and his family are affiliated religiously with the Belvidere congregation in Goodhue County. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dankers are: Luellen Alice Anna, March 25, 1909; Melvin William, January 19, 1911; Harry Frederick, September 13, 1912; Erane Florence Lydia, August 9, 1915; Verone Marie, April 2, 1917, and Noranda Catherine, January 30, 1919. Mrs. Dankers was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, October 18, 1888, and has always resided in Wabasha County, where she and Mr. Dankers are widely known and enjoy a good social standing.

**Fred Sprick**, who died June 24, 1920, on his farm in section 30, Mt. Pleasant Township, was a good example of the value of industry and self-reliance, as through the possession of those qualities, together with patience, he rose from a condition of poverty to one of comparative affluence. He was born in Hanover, Germany, September 10, 1848, son of Gustav and Sophia Sprick. His early life up to the age of about 28 years was spent in his native land, where he attended school and subsequently became a farm hand. When he was 14 his mother died, and twelve years later the father, who was a brickmaker, followed his wife to the grave. In the meanwhile, in 1870, the subject of this sketch had assumed the responsibilities of domestic life, marrying Adeline Ehlers. In 1876, with the view of bettering his condition, he came with his wife and three children to the United States, landing in New York City, July 4, just 100 years after this country became a nation. Four days later he and his family arrived in Red Wing, Minnesota, whence they proceeded to Belvidere Township, Goodhue County. There Mr. Sprick found employment for a while at grubbing and general farm work, turning his hand to anything he could find to do, as he was very poor, the expenses of the journey having used up all his funds. He and his family at first lived in a little shack, and when he had contrived to get a cow he had to cut a hole in the side of the bluff to shelter it, covering the entrance with hay and straw. He often walked five or six miles to and from his work and split rails and chopped wood for fifty cents a day. Two more children were born to him, and with the advent of the youngest child, Lydia, the mother took her flight to the spirit land. Mr. Sprick drowned his sorrow as well as he could in hard work, and made gradual progress to a more prosperous condition of life. In the fall of 1881 he went back to Germany, where





MR. AND MRS. FRED SPRICK







he found another wife, being married May 21, 1882, to Margaret Klein. With her and her parents he returned to the United States soon after his marriage, and continued to reside in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County until the fall of 1887. He then rented the Follett farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, and was engaged in its operation until 1891. By that time he was becoming prosperous and attracting attention as a man bound to make his way in the world. His next move was to buy the farm on which he died, an improved farm of 160 acres in section 30, Mt. Pleasant Township. There was a fairly good house, but after he had lived in it a while it burned down, and he then erected the present residence, a good, two-story frame structure, substantial and commodious. Other improvements, which he added from time to time, and which now stand on the place, were a frame barn, 30 by 40 by 18 feet in dimensions; a horse barn, 30 by 76 by 16; a granary, 24 by 30 by 12, with a lean-to for tools, 16 by 30; a stave silo, garage, and ice-house, and another residence, 18 by 26, in which his wife's mother now lives, the father, Mr. Klein, having died about 1905. As a general farmer, stock raiser and dairyman, Mr. Sprick made a good record, and continued at work until 1911, when he rented the farm to his son, John, and until his death he and his wife enjoyed a well-earned leisure. Though not a strong party man, he usually voted the Republican ticket, and he and his family were members of the Zumbro Falls M. E. Church, and widely known as useful and respected members of the community. Mr. Sprick was no advocate of race suicide, but, on the contrary, obeyed the scriptural command to "increase and multiply," having been the father of eighteen children, five by his first wife and thirteen by his second. All those by his first wife, except one, are now living. They were: Fred, a resident of Lake City; Metta, wife of Henry Luckow of Red Wing; Claus, of Lake City; Minnie, now deceased, who was the wife of Albert Smith of Minneapolis; and Lydia, now Mrs. John Weick of Mt. Pleasant Township. The children by the second Mrs. Sprick have been as follows: Christopher, born June 9, 1883, who died January 13, 1895; Sophia, born October 10, 1884, who is the wife of John Heitman of Mt. Pleasant Township; Margaret, born April 2, 1886, who married Fred Holst of the State of Washington, and died January 31, 1913; John, born April 22, 1887, who is operating the home farm; Henry, born February 8, 1889, now a carpenter residing at home, who was in the World War, serving in France, and in Germany in the army of occupation, and who returned home June 22, 1919; Anna, now Mrs. John Fick of Zumbro Falls; Lillian, born August 15, 1892, who is the wife of Arthur Belmont, of Lake City; Raymond, born July 12, 1894, a farmer and engineer living in Mt. Pleasant Township, and who is married; Amanda, born May 14, 1896, now Mrs. Clarence Klenwood of Dumont, Minn.; Emma, born November 19, 1898, now Mrs. Harold O'Brien of Mt. Pleasant Township; Alfred, born January 6, 1901, who died April 10, 1903; Harry, born April 6, 1903, and Elda, born April 25, 1905, the two last mentioned residing at home. The fact that so few have died out of so large a family gives evidence of good stock on both sides, and it may be added that all the children were well brought up, the survivors reflecting credit on their parents.

**Paul Casparis**, superintendent of the Wabasha County Poor Farm, was born in Wabasha City, this county, December 9, 1870, son of Paul and Ocenia Casparis. Coming to Minnesota from Germany in 1860, the parents located in Wabasha, where the father followed the occupation of school teacher and dealt in machinery and insurance. Such were his business pursuits for over thirty years except two years which he spent in Big Waumandee Valley, Buffalo County, Wis., engaged in farming. He died in Wabasha in 1891, and was survived by his wife, who is now living in South Wabasha. They had four children: Octavia, now Mrs. John Schallenberg of Wabasha; Paul, subject of this sketch; Anna, wife of Ernest Morin of Wabasha, and Catherine, who is the widow of Bert Edwards and lives in Wabasha. Paul Casparis acquired his education in the common school of Wabasha. He was about 14 years old



when his father died and was independently active in industrial pursuits thereafter, following any profitable employment. On June 18, 1896, he was united in marriage with Caroline Bott, daughter of Frederick and Minnie Bott, both of Wabasha, where he and his wife began housekeeping. In the same year he began work for R. E. Jones, in the latter's grain and coal business and so continued for a number of years. In 1903 he was made electrician and given charge of that part of the business, Mr. Jones then operating the lighting system of the city, including business places and private homes. In that occupation he continued until 1908. After that he worked one year in a lumber yard, and at the end of that time rented a farm in Wabasha Township, which he operated until the end of the year 1916. In the following spring he entered the employ of the county in his present position as superintendent of the county poor farm and has continued in that capacity up to the present time, giving good satisfaction. He is the owner of a nice residence property in Wabasha. Mr. and Mrs. Casparis are the parents of four children: Hazel Fayette, born October 30, 1897; Thelma Ruth, born September 15, 1901; Alleyn Ione, born September 23, 1907, and Anna Louise, born August 13, 1915. Hazel Fayette, who was graduated from the Wabasha High School and the Normal Training School, was a teacher for one year and is now living with her parents. Thelma Ruth and Alleyn Ione are attending school in Wabasha. Mr. Casparis was reared a German Lutheran in religious faith, but he and his family are now affiliated with the Congregational church. Mrs. Casparis has lost both her parents, her father having died in Wabasha, January 1, 1902, and her mother in Minneapolis, June 30, 1919. The father was a miller by trade. Mr. Casparis has two sisters and a brother, namely: August, in California; Anna now Mrs. Chalmers Robb of Minneapolis; and Louise, who married Robert English.

**William Schultz**, an early settler in Plainview Township, and now a well known and respected resident of Plainview village, was born in Germany October 15, 1848. He came to the United States in 1855, settling in Milwaukee, Wis. From there in the early sixties he came to Minnesota, and for some time resided at Potsdam in Olmsted County. In 1870, being then a young man of 22 years, and his own master, he began farming for himself, buying 240 acres in section 27, Plainview Township, Wabasha County. There he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for 47 years, or until his retirement in 1917, by which time he owned 700 acres, having from time to time made additional land purchases. By industry, perseverance and thrift he acquired a competence, and is now enjoying a well earned leisure as a resident of Plainview village. Mr. Schultz was married in 1878 to Ernestenia Rosolack, and he and his wife have had five children: Clara, now Mrs. August Fenske; Amanda and Edward; Reno, wife of Albert Rietlor, and Orlanda, who is living at home. Mr. Schultz and his family are members of the German Lutheran church.

**Edward J. Schultz**, whose career as a farmer in Plainview Township has been marked by enterprise and rewarded with a high measure of success, was born in this township, February 2, 1884, son of William and Ernestenia (Rosolack) Schultz. He was educated in the Plainview village school. After assisting his father on the home farm until 1909, he began his independent career by renting a farm of 240 acres in sections 10 and 15, Plainview Township, which farm he afterwards purchased. In 1917 he traded that farm for another of the same size, also located in Plainview Township, in section 27, on which he is now living. Here he has continued in general farming and stock raising, keeping a good herd of Hereford cattle, with a full blooded sire at the head. He is doing a prosperous business and has improved his place by the erection of a new residence and out-buildings. He was married, June 12, 1912, to Ida Boehlke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Boehlke, of Plainview Township. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Le Etta L., born May 5, 1913; William E., born June 11, 1915; and Dorothy M., born May 5, 1918. The family are members of the Lutheran church, and have a good social standing in the community.



**Arthur H. Davis**, for a number of years one of the hard-working and successful farmers of Plainview Township, who has recently passed away, was born in this township, December 12, 1866, son of Daniel M. and Virginia (Hale) Davis. The parents, natives respectively of New York and Virginia, at an early day took a claim with Jonathan Fisk in Plainview Township, this county, of which they were pioneers. Both are now deceased, the father having passed away in 1909, and the mother in 1872. Arthur H. Davis was educated in the local schools, and until the age of 26 years resided on his parents' farm, except for one year which he spent in Chicago. He then bought out a livery business in Plainview, which he carried on for about three years. In the year 1900 he gave it up and bought a farm of 100 acres in Olmsted County, where he was engaged in agriculture until 1915. He then sold that farm and bought one of 160 acres in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, on which he made improvements, conducting it successfully until his death. That event was to some extent unexpected even by himself. During his early years he had taken a prominent part in athletic sports, in which he obtained a reputation among his associates. Stout of heart, and apparently with a rugged constitution, he had for many years easily performed the strenuous labors of farm life. But the dread disease, tuberculosis, which is no respecter of persons, attacked him about a year ago. He spent a few months at the Wabasha Sanitarium, and for a time seemed greatly improved. After returning home he continued to gain in health, but about eight days before his death he was seized with a severe hemorrhage, which was followed by others, and at 5:30 o'clock, on Monday afternoon, March 15, 1920, he passed away, the news coming as a shock to his many life-long friends, few of whom knew that he was ill. Mr. Davis was a man of strong character and type of manhood, vigorous in the pursuit of any undertaking to which he gave his mind. Successful as a farmer and valued as a neighbor and friend, his personality and service to the community will not soon be forgotten. His funeral services were conducted by the Rev. J. L. Jones of the Congregational church, and interment was made in Greenwood Cemetery. Mr. Davis was married on June 26, 1895, to Carrie G. Boyd, who was born in Plainview, December 10, 1872, daughter of H. P. and Florence (Hamlin) Boyd. Her father and mother were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maine, the former settling in this county in 1866. They were married in Wabasha December 22, 1867, and were subsequently the parents of five children: Minot, Hattie, Carrie G., Olive Blanche, Chatfield M. and Walton H. Minot is now deceased. Hattie is the wife of Fred Minck, of Winona. Carrie G. is now the widow of Arthur Hale Davis, subject of this sketch. Blanche married William Druey. Walton H. is residing in Plainview. H. P. Boyd, the father of Mrs. Davis, died June 10, 1909. The latter's mother is still living and resides with her. To Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Davis five children were born: Dorothy Leone, September 30, 1896; Florence Virginia, February 16, 1899; Kenneth Arthur, June 16, 1902; Alton Hamlin, June 19, 1904, and Alice Hale, February 18, 1911. Dorothy Leone is the wife of George H. Vermilya and has one child, Shirley J. The other children are residing at home with their mother. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Congregational church, to which Mr. Davis belonged. Politically he was a Republican, but his activities were more along the lines of business and home making than in politics, and in those spheres of action his work was well and faithfully done.

**James M. Christison**, one of the thriving farmers of Plainview Township, where he has resided for 29 years, was born in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, March 27, 1867, son of Thomas and Jane (Miller) Christison. The parents were Wisconsin farmers who were married in that state, and who are both now deceased, the father having passed away in 1908 and the mother in 1915. James M. received his education in the district schools of Waukesha County, and resided at home on his parents' farm until 22 years of age. He then worked out for two years, after which, in 1891, he came to Wabasha County. After



working four years for others in this county, he began independent farming, buying 80 acres in section 30, Plainview Township. On that farm he resided until 1912, making good progress financially. When he sold it he bought his present farm of 160 acres, one-half of which lies in section 7 and the other half in section 18. Here he is following mixed farming and dairying, having a herd of 30 Guernsey cattle with a full blooded sire, and also raising Poland-China hogs. With a good practical knowledge of the business and abundant industry, he is well advanced on the road of prosperity. For three years he has served as clerk on the school board of his district. On February 13, 1901, Mr. Christison was united in marriage with Inga M. Christensen, who was born near Copenhagen, Denmark, May 16, 1879. In 1882 she came to Appleton, Minn., with her parents and resided there nine years, then went to Paynesville, Minn., where she resided until two years before her marriage. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Christison are: Mary J., born October 24, 1902; Florence, July 19, 1904; Alice, September 14, 1906; Helen, November 6, 1908; Lester J., March 6, 1911; and Charles M., February 7, 1915. Mr. Christison and his family are members of the Congregational church. They are people of wide acquaintance, highly esteemed in Plainview Township and the vicinity.

**Joseph Richardson**, a notable pioneer of Elgin Township, now deceased, was born in Topsham, Vt., July 1, 1832. His early life was spent on the home farm and in attending the common school. At an early age he sold the old home farm for his parents and set out to try his fortune in the great Northwest. This was in 1854, and he went first to Barrington, Ill., where he had an uncle for whom he worked two years. In 1856 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and pre-empted land in sections 22 and 23, Elgin Township. Then returning to Vermont, he remained there two years, and settled here permanently with his family in 1858. On March 24, that year, he married Ursula E., daughter of Stephan and Susan Miles, and that summer they spent near Janesville, Wis., moving to Minnesota in the fall. His wife was a native of Waterbury, Vt., born February 28, 1835. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson started housekeeping in a little log house that was the pioneer log cabin of the township, having been built by the Bryants, and their farm was what is now known as the J. Q. Richardson place. There they remained for a little over three years, and in February, 1862, moved to the farm about a mile northeast of town, the place Mr. Richardson took as a homestead. For seven years Mr. Richardson conducted farming operations with his brother, to whom he sold an undivided one-half and gained a capital to work on. No books were kept, and at the end of the seven years they divided land (then embracing 280 acres), stock and tools in half a day without words or disagreement of any kind. Mr. Richardson was a shrewd and successful farmer, and from an early day he combined grain raising and stock raising, to which he owed much of his success. Another branch of his business was the raising of fine horses, of which he shipped a number of car loads east. He and his wife remained on the old homestead until 1905, when they moved to Elgin village. On March 24, 1908, they celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary, on which occasion 108 guests were present, including many relatives from distant points. Forty-one of the whole number present bore the name of Richardson. It was a notable gathering and the occasion was one long to be remembered by all who participated in it. A bountiful dinner was served, the tables being decorated with white roses, and the names of all the guests were taken down in a dainty little hand-painted book, prepared by Mrs. R. W. Richardson especially for the occasion. Some humorous verses, historically reminiscent, and composed by H. A. Dike, of Spokane, Wash., were read by him during the afternoon, this event taking place on the old home farm then operated by his son Frank. Mr. Richardson was a charter member of the Elgin Masonic lodge. He was politically a life-long Democrat. For six years he served his town as constable, and as town supervisor for two years. He was the senior member of the firm of Richardson





MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH RICHARDSON







Bros., a grain firm established in Elgin when the railroad went through in 1878. The firm name was changed to Richardson Brothers & Son in 1899. The Richardson farm, consisting of 340 acres, on which his son, Frank J., resided until the fall of 1919, is one of the finest farm homes in the township. Early in 1915 Mr. Richardson's health began to fail, and the last time he was able to get down town was on December 2, after which he was confined to his bed. The end came on Thursday morning, March 30, 1916, when he was relieved from his sufferings, which he had borne with patience and fortitude. Besides his wife, he left six children to mourn his loss, namely: Susan S., (now deceased), wife of D. W. Searles; Clara C., wife of D. G. Ellsbury, of Lucca, N. D.; Lenora, wife of H. A. Filkins; William H. and Frank J. of Elgin, and Dr. Walter E. Richardson of Slayton. Thomas S., another son, died when about 14 years old. He was also survived by one brother, Charles S. Richardson, the only one remaining of a family of 20 children. Mrs. Ursula E. Richardson survived her husband but a little over four years, passing away at her home in Elgin village, on Monday afternoon, April 26, 1920, at 2:30 o'clock. She had been active up to her eighty-fifth birthday. On the day following she contracted a severe cold, which terminated in pneumonia, and from the weakness following this she never recovered. During her sickness she was always sweet, patient and hopeful and ever mindful of others, which were well known characteristics of her whole life. The funeral services were conducted from the home on Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. E. W. Haley, pastor of the M. E. church, officiating. The remains were laid to rest in the Elgin cemetery.

**Nicholas Edward Bricher**, cashier and director of the Theilman State Bank, and a man who has had a long and honorable business career, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., March 3, 1878, son of John and Mary Bricher. The father and mother were natives respectively of Luxemburg and Bohemia. The former, John Bricher, came to Wabasha County in 1855 among the pioneers, locating on a tract of wild "script" land. In early days, besides improving his property and building up a farm, he taught school for some time. His career was a very successful one. He erected good buildings on his place and developed an excellent farm, and for four years served the county as register of deeds, during that period residing in Wabasha. He died in Kellogg, Minn., in March, 1915. His wife, Mary, came to America as a young girl with her parents, the family settling in Glasgow Township, close to the Bricher home in Highland Township. She is now living with her two daughters in Pasadena, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. John Bricher had ten children: Elizabeth, now Mrs. John Klein of Highland Township; Frank, who is engaged in the truck farming business at Kellogg; Joseph, who is conducting a fruit farm at Cottage Grove, Ore.; Mary, wife of Andrew McDonough of Highland Township; John D., of Kellogg, who is president of the Minneapolis firm of Lydon, Bricher Manufacturing Co., manufacturers of table pads; Anna, now Mrs. Coleman Lydon, of Pasadena, Cal.; Susan B., wife of Thomas Lydon, of the same place; Nicholas Edward, of Theilman, Minn.; Catherine, wife of John Schneider, of Pasadena, Cal.; and Christopher C., a member of the Lydon, Bricher Co., of Minneapolis, where he resides. Nicholas Edward Bricher acquired his elementary education in the common school, and was subsequently a student at the Wabasha high school and the La Crosse Business College. About 1896 he became manager of the New Wabasha Lumber Co.'s business at Theilman, and was with that company for four years. Then in the spring of 1900 he went with the American Malting Co., of Winona, as manager of their business at Theilman. After a while, however, that company sold their Theilman interests to the Western Grain & Elevator Co. of Winona, and Mr. Bricher was manager of the Theilman interests of the latter company up to 1911. In June of the year last mentioned he became cashier of the Theilman State Bank, of which institution he was one of the organizers and incorporators, and this position he has since retained. The village of Theilman has found in him an



active and useful citizen, mindful of its interest. He owns a good home here and he and his family enjoy social popularity. Mr. Bricher was married July 19, 1904, to Mary J. Kinsella, who was born in Oakwood Township, May 27, 1862, daughter of Matthew and Catherine (Finley) Kinsella, now of Theilman. He owns a good home in the village. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. For three years he was treasurer of the school board, and for several years was a member of the board of directors of the Lydon, Bricher Manufacturing Company of Minneapolis, of which he is a stockholder. He is always ready to support any practical project for the welfare and advancement of the community in which he resides.

**Dennis Kinsella**, one of the early settlers in Oakwood Township, now retired and living in Plainview village, was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, August 10, 1848, son of Daniel and Catherine (Delany) Kinsella. In 1855, at the age of about seven years, he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family landing at New Orleans, where they remained for a year. They then came up the river to Alton, Illinois, which place they made their home until 1862, when they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling on land in Oakwood Township. Dennis Kinsella was then about 14 years old, and he soon began to make himself useful on the farm, working for his father until he reached the age of twenty-two. He then farmed a 40-acre tract in Highland township, and after selling it, he bought a farm of 160 acres in Oakwood township, on which he made extensive and valuable improvements, erecting a new set of buildings, including a house, barn and outbuildings, also fencing the entire farm. There he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1911, except for a period of ten years, during which he worked at the carpenter's trade in St. Paul. As a general farmer and stock raiser he was successful and became widely known. He served as supervisor on the Highland town board, and was clerk of the school board in Oakwood township for a number of years, and belongs to the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie. He took up his residence in Plainview in 1911, and where he and his wife now live with their adopted daughter, Mrs. George Neinow. In 1918 he sold his farm. Mr. Kinsella was married July 24, 1870, to Catherine Feehan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Feehan. They were natives of Tipperary, Ireland, and came to the United States in 1867, settling in Oakwood township, Wabasha county, on a farm which they homesteaded, and here spent the rest of their lives, she passing away August 18, 1888, and he on January 11, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Kinsella, and their adopted daughter, Mrs. Neinow, are members of the Catholic church.

**Cyrus G. Helgersen**, a member of the well known mercantile firm of Squire & Helgersen, of Mazeppa, was born in Freeport, Iowa, August 4, 1879, son of Hans and Rose (Olson) Helgersen. The parents were natives of Christiania, Norway, the mother coming to the United States in 1866 with her parents. At about the same time her future husband, Hans Helgersen, settled on a homestead with his parents on Greenwood Prairie, near Plainview, Wabasha County, Minn. He was a Clergyman and subsequently went from this county to Iowa, to take charge of a Methodist church there. It proved to be his last charge, as he died at Freeport, that state, in 1882, leaving two children: Anna, now the wife of A. F. Polson, of Minneapolis; and Cyrus G., of Mazeppa. After Hans Helgersen's death his widow married J. A. Olin, of Belvidere, Goodhue County, Minn., and in 1886 moved with her husband to Millville, in which vicinity she now resides on a farm. By her marriage with Mr. Olin she has two children, Phoebe and Edna. Phoebe is the wife of C. A. Polson, and Edna resides in Minneapolis. Cyrus G. Helgersen was reared chiefly at Millville, residing on the Olin farm with his mother and step-father. He attended the district school and subsequently took a course in a commercial college at Lake City. He remained on the farm engaged in agriculture until arriving at the age of 21, and then became clerk in the store of E. N. York at Hammond. In 1902 he came to Mazeppa and became clerk with Phillips & Co., remaining with that









AMES BROTHERS



concern until Mr. Phillips sold out his business. The next three years Mr. Helgerson spent in Canada, and then returning to Mazeppa, entered the employ of Herman & Squire, for whom he worked as clerk until 1917. He then purchased a half interest in the store, which has since been conducted under the style of Squire & Helgerson. The firm carries a full line of dry goods, shoes, men's furnishings, ladies' "ready-to-wear," and groceries, and enjoys a good patronage. Mr. Helgerson was married at Zumbrota, Minn., in June, 1913, to Elizabeth Stecher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Stecher. Her parents, who were early settlers in the town of Womamingo, Goodhue County, are now living in Virginia. They had six daughters, Elizabeth, Emma, Edna, Alma, Laura and Esther, all of whom are now living.

**Ernest Raymond and Archie Glenn Ames**, proprietors of a 320-acre stock farm in section 30, Minneiska Township, are well known throughout southeastern Minnesota as successful swine and cattle breeders. They were born at Gilmanton, Buffalo County, Wisconsin. Ernest R. on January 30, 1880, and Archie G. on June 10, 1882. The parents were Alonzo G. and Emma (Hyatt) Ames. The father, born in the state of Maine in 1836, was of English ancestry, and when young came with his parents to Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, where about 1848 they settled on a farm. There Alonzo G. was brought up and remained until reaching the age of 21. His marriage to Emma Hyatt occurred September 25, 1859, and soon after that event he went with his wife to Missouri. A year and a half later the Civil War broke out, but Alonzo G. Ames saw the trend of events, and before Fort Sumter was fired on, he escaped in the night, accompanied by his wife, in order to avoid forcible enlistment in the Home Guard. After reaching Wisconsin he enlisted in the First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served with that regiment until the close of the war. It was attached to the Army of the Tennessee and Mr. Ames served under Generals Meade, Buell and Rosekranz, taking part in the principal battles participated in by that army, including that of Chattanooga. Near Hingham, Sheboygan County, Wis., he bought a farm of 90 acres, on which he resided nine years. At the end of that time he removed with his family to Buffalo County, in the same state, and for about nine years operated a farm of 300 acres in Gilman Valley, near Alma. He then sold out, intending to go to Nebraska, but, having changed his mind, took a farm of 201 acres in Dover Township, Buffalo County, which property still remains in the family. Alonzo G. Ames died very suddenly on January 9, 1906. He and his wife were the parents of six children: Minerva E., born in Missouri, November 11, 1860, and now Mrs. L. J. Patterson, of St. Charles, Minn.; Eulah Ethel, born August 11, 1866, who married Warren Alt, of Mondovi Township, Buffalo County, Wis., and is now residing in Los Angeles, Calif.; Mary L., born August 13, 1869, who is also a resident of Los Angeles; Charlotte E., born November 12, 1872, who is the wife of Christian A. Berg, residing in Hollywood, a suburb of Los Angeles; and Ernest Raymond and Archie Glenn, the dates of whose nativity have been already given. The subjects of this sketch both attended school in Dover Township, Buffalo County, Wis., Ernest Raymond also taking three terms in the agricultural college at Madison, and Archie Glenn one term in the Winona Business College. Under their father's instructions and direction, they acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture and stock raising, and after his death remained for one year on the farm in Dover Township, Buffalo County. They then came to Minnesota, Ernest R., or Ray, as he is usually called in the family, becoming clerk in the hardware store of C. A. Berg, his brother-in-law, at Winona. Within a year or two Mr. Berg sold out and went to California, and the two brothers, in 1909, formed a partnership and took their present farm, which they have since operated, making a specialty of stock breeding. In this line of industry they have made a wide reputation, and their sales are attended by farmers from many miles around and all parts of the United States. At one of these sales, in September, 1919, they sold 55 head of swine, realizing an aggregate



sum of \$15,210. This is said to have been one of the largest sales ever held in the state. On January 27, 1920, 37 head of hogs were sold for \$22,470, an average price of \$607 per head, the highest average attained in the state to that time, one sow selling for \$2,525. On March 2, 1920, 42 head sold for \$25,100, including Leader of Fashion, the boar which sold to the Underwood Farm, of Lake City, for \$10,000 and other consideration valued at \$2,500. This is the world's record price for under one year old boar; it was sired by Premier Sensation. During the winter of 1919-20 the Ames Brothers purchased at leading sales in different states about \$30,000 worth of breeding sows, paying for one \$4,000, which is the highest price sow in the state. They figure on about four sales a year, all sales being held on the home farm. They keep on an average about 400 Duroc-Jersey hogs, and about 100 head of cattle of the Guernsey breed; the hogs being registered, high-priced stock, and the cattle part registered and part grade stock. Before engaging in the breeding of registered stock, the Ames brothers were engaged in the silo business, erecting many silos in Wabasha County and southern Minnesota. When they first came to their present farm, it had been rented out for 20 years previously, and was in a poor and dilapidated condition, the land being overgrown with wild oats, mustard, and other weeds, and for some time it was uphill work to get the place into good shape. This task, however, they have accomplished, and now have a splendid piece of property, with excellent buildings of modern type. Archie G. is secretary of the local creamery at Weaver, and of the State Duroc Association, and both brothers belong to the Modern Woodmen and to the Odd Fellows. Ernest Raymond Ames was married, in May, 1907, to Clara Kahl, of Winona, daughter of H. G. Kahl, and has three children: Ronald, aged 12 years; Charlotte, aged 8, and Roberta, aged 3. Archie Glenn Ames was married, at Mondovi, Wis., October 25, 1911, to Emma A. LaDuke, and has three children: Eleanor Ailee, born November 6, 1913; Glenna Jean, born May 24, 1915; and Audrey Emma, born May 7, 1917. Mrs. Emma Ames, the widowed mother of the Ames brothers, resides with them on the farm during summers and the winters in California with her daughters.

Since the above article was written news has been received of the death of Ernest Raymond Ames, who passed away at the Winona General Hospital, on Wednesday, June 30, 1920, after an operation for appendicitis, performed on the previous Sunday at midnight. The funeral was held Friday afternoon, July 2, from the home, and burial was at Hillside Cemetery, Minneiska. Hosts of relatives and friends from the immediate neighbors and surrounding states attended. The Rev. Jesse Kenderdine, of Winona, and Rev. Stanley Kenderdine, of Minneiska, conducted the services. At the cemetery the I. O. O. F. Lodge of Plainview performed the ceremonies according to the ritual of the Order.

**William B. Heagerty, Jr., M. D.**, who for the last ten years has been successfully engaged in medical practice in Mazeppa, was born in Cork, Ireland, June 25, 1876, son of William and Elizabeth (McBride) Heagerty. The parents came to the United States with their family in 1900, settling in Minneapolis. In 1910 they went to Long Beach, California, where they have since resided. They had six children—four sons and two daughters. Those now living are: George, residing in Tacoma, Wash.; Harry, of Oakland, Calif.; Maud, wife of Franklin Miller, of Pasadena, Calif.; William B., of Mazeppa; and Marian, residing with her parents at Long Beach, Calif. A son, Kingston, died in 1905. William B. Heagerty was 23 years old when he came to Minneapolis with his parents. He was equipped with a good education, the foundation for which had been laid in the common schools of his native land, and supplemented by a course at Queen's College, at Cork, Ireland. He had been subsequently graduated M. D. from Edinburgh University, Scotland, and after coming to Minnesota he took a post-graduate course in the University of Minnesota. In the year 1900 he commenced the practice of his profession at Lander, Wyoming, where





MR. AND MRS. ALONZO G. AMES







he remained one year. Then returning to Minneapolis, he practiced there six years, coming to Mazeppa in 1910. Here he has demonstrated his ability as a competent physician and surgeon, built up a good practice, and won a wide personal popularity. On June 6, 1917, Dr. Heagerty enlisted in the American service, as first lieutenant in the medical service; was promoted to captain November 7, 1917, and to major, March 6, 1918. Assigned to the 89th Division, he was first stationed at Camp Funston, went abroad with his division in June, 1918, was at the front in France, in command of Field Hospital No. 355, and returned home in 1919, being honorably discharged on June 18. He then resumed medical practice in Mazeppa. He is a member of the Masonic order, in which he has advanced as far as the Commandery. Since coming to Mazeppa he has identified himself closely with public affairs, and proved himself a man of force and useful activity. He was four years president of the village council, during which period the municipal electric light and power system was installed, with 24 hour service. This was in 1916, and in March, 1920, Dr. Heagerty was again elected president of the village over M. J. Hart. In 1920 also he was a delegate to the Wabasha County Convention, and to the Minnesota State Republican Convention at St. Paul. On June 16, 1919, Dr. Heagerty was united in marriage with Dora E. Schwitz, of Wabasha, daughter of George and Elisa Schwitz, who were early settlers in this county. She is one of a family of six children, those now living, in addition to herself, being Ann, Elise, Margaret and John, the last mentioned being a student at Carleton College. There was another son who died in infancy. The father, George Schwitz, died in 1914, but his wife is still living, and is a resident of Wabasha.

**Roy L. Irish**, one of the progressive young farmers of Plainview Township, residing in section 11, was born in Winona County June 25, 1883, son of Charles and Ellen (Smith) Irish. Clark Irish, grandfather of Roy, was a native of New York State, and his grandmother Irish, whose maiden name was Stone, came from Ohio. They came to Winona County, Minnesota, in pioneer days and followed the occupation of farmers. In Winona County their son Charles was born and reared, and he subsequently came to Wabasha County, where he married Ellen Smith, and followed farming for 25 years. Their only child was Roy L., subject of this sketch. In 1887 Mrs. Irish died, and he subsequently married Adella Warner, of Wabasha County, by whom he has one son, Fred, a farmer in Winona County. Roy L. Irish was educated in the rural schools and the public schools at Plainview. Subsequently he took up agricultural work on his parents' farm, which he operated for two years. He then went to Alma Center, Jackson County, Wis., where he farmed for five years. At the end of that time he returned to the home farm of 80 acres in section 11, Plainview Township, Wabasha County, which he has since been engaged in operating with good success. He is a member of the local Shipping and Creamery associations, also of the Fair association, and is active in all matters relating to his business or to the interest of the township and county. While living in Wisconsin he served on the school board of his district, and also an unexpired term as town clerk. He is recognized by his fellow citizens as one of the rising young men of Plainview Township, and has made a big stride on the road to prosperity. Mr. Irish laid the foundations of a home on September 6, 1904, when he was united in marriage with Katherine Steffes, of Highland Township, Wabasha County, who was born June 16, 1883. He and his wife are the parents of nine children, the three youngest of whom, Iva G., Ila K. and Ina A., are triplets, born July 8, 1918. Their birth attracted much attention and interest throughout this locality. The other six children are: Alta E., January 17, 1906; Wesley C., October 28, 1907; Ella M., September 5, 1909; Alvin, April 20, 1911; Erwin L., September 25, 1913; and Charles L., September 3, 1915. All the children are living and healthy, and in the clean and wholesome environment of country life give bright promise of developing into useful men and women. Mr. Irish is fraternally affiliated with the Masons and Odd Fellows in Plainview.



**William Phillips**, who during the last few years has made good progress along agricultural lines as proprietor of a farm of 160 acres in section 29, Lake Township, was born in Scotland in January, 1857, son of George and Ellen Phillips. His youthful days were spent among the North Hills of Banffshire, where his father was a small farmer, and he received very little education. In 1874, at the age of 17, he accompanied his parents to America and in 1868, came with them to Lake City, the father renting land in the vicinity. There were five other children in the family besides the subject of this sketch: Mary, now the wife of John Smith, a farmer of Lyon County; George and Alexander, who are living now in Alta, Canada; Ellen, who married George Wilson, but is now deceased; John, resides in Millelacs County, Minn., engaged in the machine and implement business, and James, who is an attorney in Lake City. William found employment as a farm hand with James Gray of West Albany, for whom he worked one year, and as farm laborer or renter he spent a number of years in that township. From 1906 until the fall of 1914 he was in the employ of the Jewell Nursery Co. Then in 1915 he bought the Stadey place of 160 acres in section 29, Lake Township, four and a half miles south of Lake City, which is his present property. The land is all tillable and there is a fair frame house, with a barn, granary, poultry house, and stave silo. Here Mr. Phillips does general farming, keeping grade Guernsey cattle, Duroc-Red swine, and Shropshire and Oxford sheep. His operating equipment is good and he is making progress, each year finding him farther advanced on the road of prosperity. Politically he is a Republican with liberal tendencies, sometimes voting for the man rather than for the party. He was reared a Presbyterian, but he and his family attend the Congregational church. Mr. Phillips was married in December, 1885, to Agnes Miller of West Albany Township. He and his wife have five children: Ella May, now Mrs. Wesley Lamb of Lake Township; Charlotte Ann, who had had a high and normal school education and is now a teacher; Florence Jeanette, a nurse in the Lake City Hospital; Bessie Maud, wife of Charles McGarry, a lumber dealer of Bain, Minn.; and William M., who married Grace Elizabeth Walters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Walters of Lake City, and is now in partnership with his father on the farm. He spent a year in the Minnesota Agricultural College. He and his wife have a son, Stanley, who was born February 19, 1919. All Mr. Phillips' children were carefully brought up and were given a good education, and are a credit to the name they bear.

**John Horn**, a well known and highly respected resident of Plainview, who was an early settler in Wabasha County, was born in Harrison County, Ohio, March 11, 1836, son of James and Eleanor (Davidson) Horn. The parents, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and farmers by occupation, came west at an early day to Viroqua, Monroe County, Wis., making the journey with an ox team and wagon, and accompanied by their six children. Their son John, then a boy of ten years, rode horseback, driving the stock. After the family had become settled at Viroqua he attended school there, and remained in Wisconsin until 1865, in which year, being then 29 years old, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, locating on land three miles east of where Plainview village now stands. There he endured the hardships common to the pioneer settlers, conditions improving, however, with the lapse of time, and as he developed his farm. On that farm his father died in 1898, the mother having passed away thirty years previously, in 1866, a year after her son John had left the old Wisconsin home. John Horn continued actively engaged in farm work until 1903, when he retired and moved to Plainview, where he has since made his home. He was married at Viroqua, Wis., February 23, 1860, to Arvilla Powers, who accompanied him to Minnesota. She died here in 1867, leaving a daughter, Hulda E. Mr. Horn subsequently married Nancy J. Hurd, daughter of James and Elenora Hurd, of Erie County, New York. Her parents were early settlers at Waterloo, Jefferson County, Wis., where they engaged in farming. By his second wife Mr. Horn had six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom one of the





MR. AND MRS. JOHN HORN







sons died in infancy, and a daughter, Addie, who on December 24, 1900, married George Christison, a farmer of Plainview Township, died in October, 1919, leaving three children: William, George and Everett. The survivors are: Melvina, who married Frank O. Wood, resides on a farm in Plainview Township, and has two sons and two daughters; Jennie, who since the death of her mother in 1913, has kept house for her father in Plainview; Merritt J., a prosperous farmer and stock raiser of Elgin Township, who married Emma B. Lyon, and has a son, Herbert A.; John, who resides in Pasadena, Cal. John first married Viola Cole, who died in 1906. He then married her sister, Addie Cole, who died April 14, 1920, leaving a son, Eliot, and a daughter, Winifred. For the last 17 years Mr. Horn has enjoyed a well earned leisure, surrounded by his children, friends and old acquaintances. He can take pride in the fact that he was one of the men who helped to build up this county and lay the foundation of its agricultural wealth. In former days he was an active member of the Grange, and also served efficiently in minor public offices. He is a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie, also of the Methodist church. His political principles are those of the Republican party.

**Merritt J. Horn**, proprietor of the "Woodland View" farm in sections 25 and 36, Elgin Township, where he is doing a large and profitable business in dairying and stock and poultry raising, was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, January 16, 1873, son of John and Nancy J. (Hurd) Horn. His primary education was acquired in the common school, after which he attended the high school and the Winona State Normal School. Thus provided with a good mental equipment, he taught for a while in the eighth and ninth grades of the Plainview school. In 1902 he went to Pine Island where, until 1906, he was engaged in the general mercantile business. At the end of that time, on account of poor health, he went to New England, Hettinger County, North Dakota, where he took a land claim which he proved up. Three years later he removed to Canon City, Colo., where he became superintendent for one of the large stores of the Rocky Mountain Fuel Company, a position which he held for three years. In 1912 Mr. Horn returned to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and rented the 160-acre farm of his father-in-law, William Lyon, in Elgin Township, which he carried on until 1917, the year in which he purchased his present place. Here he is successfully breeding registered Holstein-Frisian cattle, Poland-China swine, also registered, and a high grade of poultry. He is a member of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Company; also of the Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers' Association, of which for a number of years he has been toastmaster. He is also president of the Six Oaks Pleasant Valley Farmers' Club of Plainview, and has done great work in the promotion of better farming and living. While living in Pine Island he served on the City Council and on the board of education, and at all times he has been ready to do his full duty as a loyal American citizen, actively interested in the welfare and advancement of the community in which he resides. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a member, and for two years he was president of the Epworth League in the Winona District, being an active religious worker zealous for the promotion of God's kingdom on earth. Mr. Horn was married, August 2, 1898, to Emma B. Lyon, who was born May 9, 1873, in Elgin, daughter of William H. Lyon. Mr. and Mrs. Horn are the parents of one son, Herbert A., born August 14, 1900, who was educated in the common and high school of Plainview, and is now associated with his father in the work of the farm. He was in the S. A. T. C. service of U. S. during the World War.

**Elijah Ordway**, one of the early merchants of the village of Elgin, where for a number of years he was engaged in the hardware business, and also held public office, was born in the town of Tunbridge, Orange County, Vermont, February 27, 1834. His parents were Benjamin and Mary (Dickerman) Ordway, natives of the same locality, where the Ordways had been long established, and were numerous, as Elijah's paternal grandfather, Benjamin, was one of 22



children. Elijah grew up on a farm in Orange County, and for a number of years agriculture was his regular occupation. In March, 1854, he was married to a distant relative, Rebecca Dickerman, who was born in Topsham, Vt. For a number of years they remained in their New England home, but in 1866 Mr. Ordway came with his family to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and settled on a tract of land in section 34, Elgin Township. After two years' work on it he removed to a location farther north, where he remained four years or more. Then in 1874 he removed to the village and engaged in the hotel business for a while. This he relinquished to open a hardware store, but apparently the move was premature, as he soon sold out, and the store was afterwards closed up. The coming of the railroad created new and better conditions, and Mr. Ordway, in the spring of 1881, in company with a son, again entered into the hardware business, opening a store on Park street, east of the depot. This time success crowned his efforts and he continued in the business for the rest of his life, except for a time under President Cleveland's first administration, when he served as postmaster. He died June 24, 1890. Aside from his business interests, Mr. Ordway proved himself a public-spirited citizen by devoting a part of his time to the affairs of the community. He was for five years or more supervisor of the town, serving two years as chairman of the board, and his energy and perseverance were the chief factors in the establishment of a handsome school building in the village, education being a subject in which he was always deeply interested. Politically he was a Democrat, and in religious faith a Universalist. His wife survived him a number of years, passing away November 2, 1909. They were the parents of four children: Benjamin S., now residing in Elgin village; Alonzo, now deceased; Mary Jane, who died in Vermont at the age of two years; and Stillman, who is also now deceased. The son Alonzo was for a number of years his father's partner in business. He married Augusta Beier, a native of Germany.

**Benjamin S. Ordway**, a well known and respected citizen of Elgin, of which village he has been a resident for many years, was born in Orange County, Vermont, October 17, 1854, son of Elijah and Rebecca (Dickerman) Ordway. In 1866, as a boy of twelve years, he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, and subsequently spent some years on their farms in Elgin Township, acquiring his education in the public schools. His early industrial experience was along agricultural lines, but later, taking up his residence in the village, he engaged in the livery business, which he followed for 28 years. He also served as marshal for many years, and for twelve years was deputy sheriff. For the past seven years he has been engaged in light occupation as janitor of the high school. He is a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M. On January 24, 1880, Mr. Ordway was united in marriage with Elizabeth Senrick, who was born in Wabasha village, this county, August 7, 1857, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Frank) Senrick. Her parents were natives of Germany who were married in Wabasha. The father, originally a carpenter by trade, was later engaged in farming in Wabasha and Olmsted counties. His first wife died October 29, 1868, and he married secondly Emilia Block, who is also now deceased. Of the second union two children survive: Herman, of Cooperstown, N. D., and Anna, who is now Mrs. Albert Erdman, of Winona. Mr. Senrick spent his last years in Rochester, where he lived retired until his death, August 18, 1899. The children by his first wife Elizabeth were Elizabeth, William, Henry, Mary, Charles, Pauline and Emma, of whom Charles is now deceased. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ordway: May Elizabeth, January 30, 1881; and Gertrude Hazel, August 1, 1888. May is now the wife of C. G. Lyon, of Vera, Wash., and has one child, Fern. Gertrude is the wife of Hollie Ketchum, of Slope Center, N. D., and has two children, Jerome B. and Neil E. The family are connected religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Ordway is a member of the local Chapter of the Eastern Star.









GUSTAV STAUDACHER AND FAMILY



**Charles H. Mancilman**, who owns and operates a productive farm of 160 acres in section 33, Lake Township, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, July 22, 1874, son of John and Caroline Mancilman. When he was nine years old his parents emigrated to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling on a small farm in Gilford Township. They were in poor circumstances, the father having but \$10 in money when he arrived here. They were hard working people, however, and survived pioneer hardships, in time developing their farm. It is not many years since they passed away, John Mancilman dying in 1904, and his wife in 1916. Charles H., on account of his parents' impecunious condition, had but slight educational opportunities, being obliged to help on the farm at an early age, and he also worked out when very young. School was a long distance away, moreover, and there were no roads. He spent a number of years in practical farm labor working for others, but in 1910 he rented a farm of Henry Moechnig, in West Albany Township, which he operated for five years, making independent progress. In the fall of 1914 he bought the Matt Wise farm of 160 acres on section 33, Lake Township, which was an improved farm with a fairly good frame house and some other buildings. He has suited it better to his requirements by the erection of other and better buildings. These include a modern frame barn, 36 by 80 by 14 feet, with a 9-foot basement and cement floor, furnished with the Moyer equipment of steel stanchions for cattle and running water, together with a cream-house in connection, 12 by 14 feet in size; a machine shed, 20 by 30 by 8 feet; and a silo 14 by 40 feet, 120-ton capacity, built by the Kalamazoo Silo Co., poultry house and cribs. He has a first class operating equipment, and is carrying on general farming with profitable results, breeding high grade cattle, having at the head of his herd a full blooded Hereford sire. He also has a herd of Chester-White hogs which is increasing in size from year to year. His farm is situated six and a half miles from Lake City, which makes a convenient market. To attain his present prosperous condition Mr. Mancilman has had to work hard, but he has also been aided by his wife, who has done her part in carefully directing the affairs of the household. He was married September 22, 1910, to Lydia Emma Moechnig, of West Albany Township, and who was born April 21, 1881. They are members of the M. E. church at Lake City, and in politics Mr. Mancilman is a Republican. Their children are: Dorence, born June 29, 1911; Wilbur, June 21, 1913; Henry, April 18, 1916; Alfred, November 5, 1917, and Caroline, May 9, 1919.

**Gustave Staudacher**, who is numbered among the prosperous agriculturists of Plainview Township, was born in Canada, July 7, 1868. He was educated in the district schools of the Dominion and in Minnesota. At the age of nine years he came to the States with his parents, Leonard and Augusta (Demm) Staudacher, who took a farm in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, which they operated until 1908, when they retired. The father died in 1919, but the mother is still living on the home farm with her daughter, Mrs. Annie Rollins. Gustave Staudacher remained at home with his parents until arriving at the age of 21 years. During the next nine years he was in the employ of R. C. Wright and others at farming, working steadily and practicing economy, so that at the end of that period he was able to rent the Murray farm, which he operated on his own account for three years. He then bought his present farm of 160 acres in section 11, Plainview Township, on which he has made a number of improvements, and operating with profitable results, raising the usual crops, and breeding Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine, having blooded sires at the head of his herds. As a citizen he takes an active part in local affairs, and is now serving as supervisor on the town board. For fourteen years also he has been treasurer of School District No. 71, having the confidence of his fellow citizens in all matters of public trust. Politically he is a Republican and fraternally a member of Odd Fellows Lodge No. 16, of Plainview. Twenty-four years ago Mr. Staudacher assumed the responsibilities of domestic life,



being united in marriage, February 15, 1896, with Gertrude Wood, who was born May 21, 1877, daughter of Orren and Esther (Smith) Wood, of Plainview Township. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Esther, born December 13, 1897; Merle, born January 19, 1902; and Naoma, born January 28, 1903. Esther is a graduate of the Plainview high school. All the children are residing at home, Merle and Naoma attending high school at Plainview.

**Orren Wood**, an extensive farmer owning and operating land both in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, and in Winona County, was born in the state of New York, May 20, 1848, son of Arnold and Christina (Rorick) Wood. After acquiring his education in the public schools of his native state, he came west in 1869, and settling in Wabasha County, Minnesota, bought 80 acres of land in section 2, Plainview Township. From that small beginning he made steady progress until he had increased the area of his farm to 240 acres. This included land rented in 1887 from his father-in-law, Thomas Smith, which he bought in 1889. He also acquired the farm of 67 acres in Winona County on which his son is now residing, having rented the larger farm in 1918 to his son Byron. He is a man who has made a reputation as a successful farmer and a good citizen, and is widely known throughout this locality. Mr. Wood was married December 3, 1875, to Esther Smith, who was born at Read's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., February 10, 1853, daughter of Thomas and Ellen (Williamson) Smith, natives respectively of Illinois and Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were among the earliest settlers in Wabasha County, having arrived here in 1849. In October, 1852, they settled on Greenwood Prairie, taking 160 acres in section 2, Plainview Township, and were therefore pioneers of that locality also. Thomas Smith died in January, 1887, his wife having passed away 18 years before, in 1869. They were the parents of ten children, the eldest of whom, John, born February 21, 1850, was the first white child born in the county. Their second child was Thomas, and their third Esther (Mrs. Orren Wood), who was the second white girl born in the county, the first having been Jennie Read. Their other children were: Julia, now the widow of Marcenus Sargent, of Plainview Township; George, who is deceased; Edwin, now living in Minnesota; Francis, of South Dakota; Ellen, deceased; Mary, wife of Al Glenn; and Hannah, wife of Orrin Fuller, of Pepin, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Orren Wood are the parents of four children: Gertrude, born May 21, 1877; Byron, April 19, 1880; Flossie, June 1, 1884; and Iven, June 14, 1893. Gertrude, who is the wife of Gustave Staudacher, of Plainview Township, has three children: Esther, Merle and Naoma. Byron married Eleanor Wentworth, and also has three children, Leslie, Leah and Marvel. Flossie is the wife of Henry La Rocque, of Plainview Township, and has one child, J. Clifford. Iven, who is the active manager of his father's farm in Winona County, married Amanda Schukart.

**Mrs. Elizabeth Steinke**, who with the assistance of her children, is conducting a profitable farm in Plainview Township, was born in a log house on the farm which she now owns and operates, April 12, 1868, daughter of Felix and Katie (Marnach) Har, her parents being well known pioneers of this locality. She was given the best education afforded by the rural schools, and both before and after her marriage continued to reside on the home farm, which was deeded to her on her father's death in 1906. It contains 117½ acres and is a good piece of agricultural property, the land being fertile and the buildings in good condition. On June 10, 1902, Miss Elizabeth Har was married to Augustus G. Steinke. He was born in Germany, August 7, 1869, and there received his education. Coming to America at the age of 16 years, he located at Modena, Wis., whence he came in 1900 to Wabasha County, where his marriage to Elizabeth Har took place, as above mentioned. Together they conducted the farm until his death on May 29, 1916. For two years subsequently Mrs. Steinke rented the property, but in 1918 she again took up its management, and with the help of her sons is making a success. Mr. Steinke had made a



number of improvements, having, among other things, put a basement under the barn, dug a well, and erected a silo. Mrs. Steinke is now remodeling and repairing the barn, and making other improvements. She has four children, who were born as follows: Alta L., April 5, 1903; George I., August 16, 1904; Howard, December 11, 1905, and Nina R., November 2, 1907. Alta L. is now a student in the high school. All are living at home, George and Howard helping with the farm work.

**Frank A. Kappler**, proprietor of a farm of 160 acres in section 23 and 24, Lake Township, was born in West Albany Township, this county, August 20, 1869, son of John and Amstina Kappler. The parents were natives of Germany but were married in Pepin, Wis., in 1862, and soon after settled in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Later, when their son, Frank A., was but a child, they moved to Lake City, where they remained for about four years, then moved to Lake Township and settled on 160 acres in section 13, the location commanding a view of Lake Pepin and the Wisconsin bluffs. There they developed a good farm, erecting a frame house, a barn and other buildings. The property is now occupied by their son Edward. John Kappler died a number of years ago, but his wife is still living, being a resident of Lake City. Frank A. Kappler in his boyhood days attended school both in Lake Township and Lake City. He was brought up to agricultural pursuits, and in 1895 bought 160 acres of improved land on sections 23 and 24, Lake Township, the tract, however, being without buildings. These he has himself erected, and now has 120 acres of the land under the plow. His house is a comfortable two-story structure of ten rooms, and his barn measures 36 by 70 by 16 feet with a ten-foot basement. He has good teams and a modern operating equipment, and is successfully carrying on general farming, keeping a good grade of Shorthorn cattle. Religiously he was reared a Catholic and is a member of St. Mary's parish at Lake City. He is a member of the Farmers' Elevator Co., and the Lake Pepin Co-operative Creamery Co., both of Lake City and is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association.

**Simon Failing**, who for a brief period was numbered among the pioneers of Lake Township, and whose descendants are now prominent here, came of Puritan stock, and spent a part, at least, of his early life in Oswego County, New York. Seeking to better his fortune in the Northwest, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1861, accompanied by his wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Munger, and four children, Clarence Eugene, Charlotte, William and Emma. To pay the expenses of the journey and provide capital he had sold the little farm he owned in New York State, but it brought no large sum, and it cost something to move the family of six persons, so he began here with but little. They arrived July 4th, and doubtless celebrated the day in true American fashion. Of "Dick" Fitzsimmons, a pioneer, they bought 160 acres in section 19, Lake Township, three and a half miles south of Lake City. It was mostly wild grub and prairie land, but Mr. Fitzsimmons had cleared about 18 acres, and there was a small board house and one or two log structures for barns. There Mr. Failing began the laborious task of developing a farm, but misfortune soon overtook him and his family. Two of the children, William and Emma, died of diphtheria, and in 1868, seven years after their settlement, death called Mr. Failing, and he passed from this life leaving his widow with two children, Clarence Eugene and Charlotte. Confronted with this situation, Mrs. Failing hired help and kept her family on the farm, which she improved. Subsequently she married John O'Brien, a farmer of Lake Township. She is still living, being now 84 years old and a resident of Lake City. The daughter, Charlotte, became the wife of William Watson of Lake Township, but is now deceased. Clarence Eugene is now a prominent farmer of Lake Township, the owner and operator of the old home farm.

**Clarence Eugene Failing**, one of Lake Township's most progressive farmers, was born at Granby, Oswego County, New York, April 29, 1856, son of Simon



and Sarah (Munger) Failing. He was a few months over five years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and settled with them on the farm on which he is now living. Of this, at the age of 21, he became the manager, and subsequently the owner by purchase, since which he has added 11 acres, making a farm of 171 acres. He has spent many years in its development and has something to show for his labor. One hundred and sixty acres are now under the plow and produce good crops, and he has greatly improved the place by the erection of new buildings, which include a comfortable frame house; a frame barn 40 by 62 by 14 feet, a 120-ton stave silo, machine shed, granary and other necessary structures. With a good operating equipment he carries on stock raising and dairying, keeping grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs, and a visible evidence of his prosperity is a good automobile. For 35 years he has served as clerk of the school board, and for 10 years he was town assessor. Mr. Failing is a member of the M. W. A. of Lake City, and a stockholder in the Lake Pepin Co-operative Creamery, and in the Farmers' Elevator, both of Lake City, and is a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association of Lake City. In all things he has proved himself a good American and a useful citizen. In his upward career he has had the help of a good wife, having been married April 5, 1882, to Ida, daughter of George and Margaret Watson, of Lake Township. Seven children have been born to them: Herbert, Clarence, Florence, Isabella, George, Ernest and Jesse, the last mentioned of whom has the misfortune to be a cripple. Herbert is working as a farm hand. Clarence took part in the World War, serving about four months in France. He returned home on the steamer Northwestern, which met with an accident on the trip, being stranded, but he got ashore, and is now a member of the police force in Seattle, Wash. Florence is now Mrs. Harry Beck of Lake City. Isabella is the wife of Lloyd K. Johnson of Weaver, this county. George, who served in the recent war, was for several years located in Winona as dairy inspector. He is now a veterinary surgeon in Lewiston, Minn. Ernest is working on the home farm with his father. Mr. and Mrs. Failing are prominent members and workers in the Methodist Episcopal church at Lake City. Politically he is a Republican.

**Francis M. Bigelow**, an early settler in Wabasha County, and a joint owner with his son of considerable land in Elgin Township, though now residing in Rochester, Minn., was born in the village of Portland, Chautauqua County, New York, September 25, 1843, son of Lawson T. and Mary (Hill) Bigelow. The founders of the Bigelow family in this county were John and Mary (Warren) Bigelow, who were among the early settlers of the Massachusetts colony in the early part of the seventeenth century. The parents of Francis M. were farmers, and he was early trained to agricultural pursuits, acquiring his education in the common schools. In 1864 he joined the stream of emigration to Minnesota, taking a farm of 160 acres in Elgin Township, Wabasha County. Later he bought 320 acres in section 29, Elgin Township, and after that 160 acres in Haverhill Township, Olmsted County, where he resided and was engaged successfully in general farming, stock raising, and the raising of small fruits and apples, his orchard at one time being the largest in the state. He resided on the farm till 1902, when he moved to Rochester. In 1904 he bought 210 acres in Rochester Township, all of which is now platted for city property, except three acres, on which tract he is living retired, and very well to do. During his career on the farm he became well known as a breeder and importer of high grade cattle. Politically he is a staunch Republican. Mr. Bigelow was married July 4, 1863, to May D. Hopson, by whom he has had nine children, namely: Albert W., born April 14, 1864, who died in 1916; Frank E., born April 4, 1866, who died in 1914; Arthur A., born January 20, 1868, now a resident of Claremont, Minn.; Schuyler, born November 27, 1869, who is on the farm at Haverhill, Minn.; Maude A., born December 29, 1871, now Mrs. E. Parker, of Shovel Lake, Minn.; Hattie L., born April 21, 1874, who is the wife





F. M. BIGELOW AND FAMILY







of John Harvey of Rochester; Stella E., born February 10, 1876, now Mrs. Frank Titterington, of Marion Township, Olmsted County; Alfred W., born January 19, 1878, who lives in section 3, Rochester Township, Olmsted County; and Howard H., born May 4, 1880, who is residing on the old home farm in Elgin Township, where in association with his father he owns 600 acres of land. Mr. Bigelow is a member of the Masonic order and of the Methodist Episcopal church. He also belongs to the Old Settlers' Association of Elgin. He was one of the builders up of this county, where he still has many friends, and his record as a Minnesota pioneer, successful farmer, and exemplary citizen is one in which his family can take pride.

**Fred H. Markwardt**, a prosperous farmer and stock raiser of Plainview Township, was born in Germany, November 2, 1864, son of Fred and Caroline (Schroeder) Markwardt. The father, a laborer by occupation, died in Germany in 1870, having survived his wife about a year. Fred H. Markwardt was educated in his native land and was subsequently engaged in farming there until he came to America in 1889. Locating first in Winona County, Minnesota, he worked out on farms for four years, after which for nine years he operated a rented farm on his own account. Having by that time made some financial progress, he bought his present farm of 160 acres in sections 2 and 3, Plainview Township, Wabasha County, the residence standing in section 3. He has remodeled the buildings, erected fences and made general improvements, and is successfully engaged in mixed farming. As a stock raiser he is breeding into Durham cattle, and also raises Duroc-Jersey hogs and Percheron horses. Politically he is a Republican, and religiously a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Markwardt was married March 29, 1894, to Martha Michael, of Olmsted County, who was born near Lewiston in Winona County January 17, 1876. He and his wife are the parents of four children, born as follows: Anna, September 29, 1895; Arthur, March 23, 1901; Emma, January 7, 1903; and Walter, February 28, 1915. All are residing at home.

**Carl M. Holst**, who passed from this life at his home in Plainview Township, January 19, 1920, was a man who had achieved a good measure of success along agricultural lines, and developed a valuable property and a comfortable home. He was born in Germany, November 20, 1864, son of Christ and Louise (Raatz) Holst. As a youth he attended school in Germany, but in 1886, in his twenty-second year, came to Minnesota, locating in Plainview village. For a year he worked out at farming, and then for a few years operated farms under rental. Industrious and economical, he saved his money until he was able to buy a farm of 240 acres in section 20, Plainview Township. After operating it for three years he sold it and bought one of 200 acres in section 27. In 1918 he sold 125 acres of that property and moved onto his farm of 160 acres in section 28, which he had bought ten years before, and this he continued to operate until his death. Since that event the farm has been successfully conducted by his two sons, Carl and Herman. The property includes a new modern house of eight rooms, provided with a hot air furnace. Mr. Holst was married February 2, 1888, to Gusta Schwartz, who was born in Germany, December 7, 1867, and came to America in 1886. The issue of this marriage was eight children, all now living, namely: Amanda, born June 15, 1889; Carl W., December 15, 1890; Alvina, September 1, 1892; Herman, February 2, 1895; Mabel, March 13, 1899; Alta, June 26, 1902; Reuben, April 2, 1904; and Robert, June 15, 1906. Alvina is the wife of Henry Miller, of Plainview Township, and has three children, Ellen, Luetta and Milton. Herman married Anna Schultz. Mabel is the wife of Jonathan Loppnow, of Plainview Township. The family are affiliated religiously with the Lutheran church. In April, 1920, Mrs. Holst moved to the village of Plainview, where she now resides with Alta, Reuben, Robert and Amanda.

**August C. Schad**, a prominent farmer of Plainview Township, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., March 31, 1874, son of Christian



and Cecelia (Ruffs) Schad. He acquired his elementary education in the district school, and subsequently was a pupil for one year in the Plainview high school. Until 1893 he remained on the home farm working for his father. The latter, who owned a ranch of 816 acres at Gainesville, Texas, then asked August to go there and take charge of it for him, which he did, raising cattle and hay, and remaining there until 1903. He then returned to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and entering into partnership with his brother William, they bought 460 acres in sections 23 and 26, Elgin Township, where they were engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1911. In that year August C. sold his interest to William and bought 400 acres in sections 19 and 20, Plainview Township, the place being known as the Schad Home, where he now lives. He has a fine house and barn, together with substantial outbuildings, and does a profitable general farming business, feeding a large number of hogs and cattle each winter. He was treasurer of the Elgin High School Board for three years, and for an equal length of time a director of the Elgin Creamery. Mr. Schad was married May 14, 1901, to Theresa Hofer. Their children, all residing at home, are as follows: Christian J., born March 10, 1902; Mary, March 16, 1904; Francis W., August 1, 1908; Lerotta M., December 16, 1910; Irene C., May 9, 1912; Arthur L., February 26, 1915; and John H., September 11, 1919. He is a member of the Catholic church and the Knights of Columbus.

**Christian Schad**, a well known retired farmer residing with his son August in Plainview Township, was born in the province or state of Hesse, Germany, March 1, 1845, son of Michael and Margaret Schad. He was educated in his native land and in 1860 came to Minnesota, locating in Highland Township, Wabasha County. Here he spent several years at farm labor, and then went into the pinery at Chippewa Falls, subsequently working in sawmills and as a raftsmen on the Mississippi river. At the close of one of his trips down the river as far as Dubuque, he bought a team of horses and drove to Plainview Township, Wabasha County, where he traded his team, harness and wagon for 80 acres of land in Elgin Township. After a while he sold that tract and bought 160 acres in Highland Township, later buying 160 more, which gave him a farm of 320 acres. This he sold in 1872 and went to Texas, where he bought a ranch of 816 acres, which he had his son August operate for him for some years. In 1884 he sold the ranch and bought a farm of 340 acres in sections 19 and 20, Plainview Township. Here he was engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1914, when he retired after a successful career. During his residence on the farm he erected a fine barn and outbuildings and built an addition to his house. Mr. Schad was a prominent citizen of his locality. He served seven years on the Highland Town Board and four years on the school board of the same township. Later he served four years on the Plainview Township school board, in every position showing efficiency and an intelligent regard for the interests of the community. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus. He was married January 8, 1870, to Celia Ruffas, who died January 7, 1912. They were the parents of eleven children, Mary, John, August, Frank, Louisa, William, Frona, Francis, Tillie, Edward and Clara. Two of them, Mary and John, are deceased. Mr. Schad is now retired from active work.

**Joseph C. Schierts**, a leading citizen of Kellogg, where he is carrying on a profitable furniture business, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., June 7, 1876, son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Rohler) Schierts. The father, who was born in Austria, came to the United States in 1854 with his parents, who first settled in Wisconsin, but in the following year he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and engaged in farming in Glasgow Township, continuing in that occupation until 1900, when he retired and took up his residence in Wabasha, where he is now living. His wife was born in Germany. Joseph C. Schierts in his boyhood attended district school in Glasgow Township, and was employed on his parents' farm until 1900, then farmed two years for





MR. AND MRS. J. C. SCHIERTS







himself, then clerked one year for M. A. Odink, then one year for George Dickman at Plainview. In 1904 he came to Kellogg and engaged in the lumber business as manager of the Wabasha (now Bottsford) Lumber Co. He was also engaged in the sawmill business with Jake Howe for eight years, and followed threshing for 13 years. In 1913 he started his present furniture store in Kellogg, and in the seven years that have since elapsed has built up an excellent trade and established a reputation as a progressive and square dealing business man. He is also a stockholder in, and a director of, the State Bank of Kellogg, and a stockholder in the John Costello Co. (mercantile), of which he was treasurer until April, 1920, when the business was sold to the Kellogg Co-operative Store Company. For a considerable period a part of his time has been devoted to the public service. For many years he was assessor of Glasgow Township, and for several years clerk of Greenfield Township. Elected treasurer of the village of Kellogg in 1913, he has since continued to hold that office, having been re-elected every two years; and for six years he was clerk of Consolidated School District No. 31. He is a member of St. Agnes Catholic church of Kellogg, of which he was secretary several years, and belongs also to St. Joseph's Society, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He owns the farm of his parents, on which he was born, and which has remained in the family since they settled on it, having been only twice transferred. Mr. Schierts was married October 11, 1904, to Sarah M. (Calvin) Odell, widow of Bert Odell, of Kellogg, and daughter of George and Frances (Canfield) Calvin, her father being a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of Pennsylvania. The latter was one of the early school teachers in Wabasha County, and was one of the ten children of John and Margaret (Greer) Calvin, natives of Pennsylvania, of Scotch descent, who settled in 1855 at what is now called Canfield Springs, in Cook's Valley, Wabasha County, Minn. After the death of her first husband, George Calvin, she married, in 1876, Martin H. Tobias, of Kellogg, Wabasha County. Mrs. Sarah M. Calvin Odell, by her first husband, Mr. Odell, had two daughters, Vera M. and Bessie, the latter being now the wife of Matthew Arens. Vera M., a graduate of the Minnesota State Normal School, was a school teacher for four years, after which she entered the office of her step-father, Joseph C. Schierts, where she is now employed.

**Martin H. Tobias**, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Kellogg, where he is now living retired, was born on a farm in Cumberland, Pennsylvania, September 8, 1849, son of Simon and Elizabeth (Handshue) Tobias. The parents were both natives of Pennsylvania and were farmers by occupation. The father died in 1860 at the age of about 49 years. His wife survived him more than half a century, dying in August, 1912, aged 89 years. They had nine children, two of whom died young. Of the others, John died in 1912, Ida in April, 1918, and Ellen in 1916. Those who are living are: Jane, wife of John Tritt, of Carlisle, Penn.; Martin H., of Kellogg, Minn.; Emma, widow of George Nailor, of Battle Creek, Iowa; and Catherine, widow of Fred Hastings of Huntsdale, Penn. Martin H. Tobias was educated in the public schools of Carlisle, Penn., and at a select school, where he spent one year. He then became a teacher, following that occupation for three years in Pennsylvania, then teaching the winter term of 1870-71 in Ohio, afterwards going to St. Louis, and then in the fall of 1871 coming to Minnesota, and spending the following winter in Minneapolis. In the spring he returned to Chicago, from there going to southern Illinois, but in the same year he came back to Minnesota and located in Plainview, for a year or two being employed in farm work and teaching. In the spring of 1874 he became clerk in Robert Cochren's hardware store in Kellogg, and was thus employed for 16 months. He then located on a farm in Cook's Valley, Highland Township, and devoted his energies to agriculture, an occupation in which he was successfully engaged until 1881, since which time he has lived retired in Kellogg. Mr. Tobias was married in May, 1876, to Mrs. Frances Canfield Calvin, who was born in Pennsylvania, daughter of John and



Margaret (Greer) Canfield. Her parents, who were natives of Pennsylvania, of Scotch descent, in 1855 settled at the locality now known as Canfield Springs, in Cook's Valley, this county, being the first settlers in the upper part of the valley. There they spent the rest of their lives in farming. Their daughter Frances—one of ten children—was one of the early school teachers in Wabasha County. She was first married to George Calvin, of Meadville, Penn., by whom she had one child, Margaret, who is now the wife of Joseph Schierts of Kellogg. By her second husband, Martin H. Tobias, she has had six children; five of whom are now living, namely: Elizabeth, wife of John Bricher of Kellogg, who has seven children; Alta, wife of Curtis Siebe of Westwood, Cal., who has one daughter; Wilma, wife of Clifford Cloe, of Whitefish, Mont., who has one son; Harry M. of Kellogg, and Ida E., wife of Forrest Cleveland of Sacramento, Cal. Harry M. Tobias enlisted in February, 1917, in the 318th Engineers, and served with that organization in France, being honorably discharged October 17, 1919. Mr. Tobias served several terms as recorder on the village board and has been justice of the peace of the town of Greenfield for 30 years. Mrs. Tobias died in 1895.

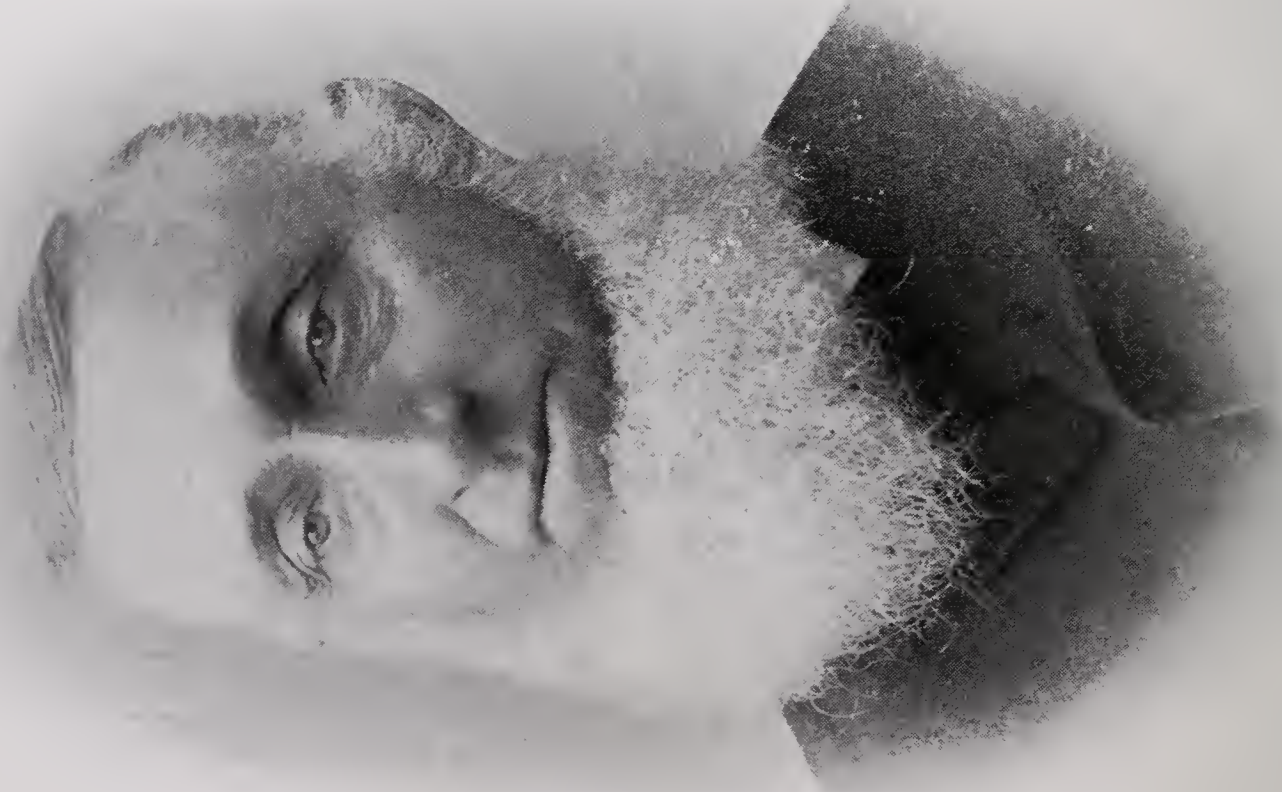
**William C. Schmidt**, a progressive farmer of Plainview Township, who by hard work and perseverance has accomplished excellent results in the development of a farm in section 34, was born in Germany, September 28, 1871, son of Fred and Minnie Schmidt. He was educated in his native land, where he grew to manhood. In 1891 he sought the United States as a land of greater opportunity than his own, and coming directly to Minnesota, settled on Oak Ridge, Winona County. For seven years thereafter he worked as a farm laborer, practicing economy and saving his money. He then took another step in advance, purchasing his present farm of 80 acres in section 34, Plainview Township, Wabasha County. The land was covered with heavy timber, and the task of clearing it was not easy, but he went at it with energy, working early and late felling the timber and grubbing and breaking the land until he has developed his present excellent farm. In 1914 he remodeled the residence, which stands in a fine yard, has erected a modern barn, 36 by 56 feet, with a basement fully equipped for stock, and has also put up a number of outbuildings and installed a full set of modern farm machinery. These achievements have placed him among the representative citizens and agriculturists of his township. In his labors he has considered comfort and artistic effect as well as utility, having laid out a fine lawn ornamented with flowers and shrubbery, the house being protected by a wind-break of Norway pine and spruce. The farm is well stocked with grade Durham cattle, and Chester-White swine and Poland-China swine. Mr. Schmidt was married March 2, 1899, to Lizzie Hoffmann of Plainview Township, and daughter of Louis and Anna Hoffmann, old settlers of Wabasha County, who carried on a farm near Potsdam, until they retired in 1916, and moved to the village of Elgin where they now live. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt have been the parents of five children: Anna, born March 14, 1900; Albert, June 16, 1901; Clara, August 24, 1903; Velva, July 2, 1907; and Arthur, born July 24, 1911, who died May 15, 1915. The family are members of the Lutheran church, and have a high standing in the community.

**Horace Borst**, who owns and operates a good farm of 100 acres in section 30, Pepin Township, six miles southeast of Lake City, was born in Oswego County, New York, October 26, 1857, son of James and Charlotte (Reynolds) Borst. The parents came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, when Horace was a babe, locating at Lake City, and the father was engaged there for many years in the occupation of lime burning. Later he and his wife moved to Plum City, Wisconsin, where both subsequently died. Horace Borst was reared to manhood in Lake City. He had but little schooling, and began industrial life as his father's assistant, being subsequently associated in the lime business with him until 1877. In that year he married Lucinda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schmidt, of Pepin Township. To the newly wedded bride her father









MR. AND MRS. DANIEL B. COWLES



gave 100 acres of improved land in section 30, without buildings, and this land constitutes Mr. and Mrs. Borst's present farm, Mr. Borst having erected a good house, barn and outbuildings. The farm is very productive and is ably worked and managed, Mr. Borst practicing diversified farming. His wife has proved a good helpmate and together they have climbed the hill of prosperity until they have attained a fair altitude, and are now numbered among the substantial people of their township. Mr. Borst is a Democrat in politics, and a member of M. W. A. Lodge of Lake City. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and of St. Mary's Parish, Lake City. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Borst, namely: Mabel Susannah, April 22, 1884, now Mrs. Alfred Fick of Frontenac, Goodhue County; Laura and Blanche, who are deceased; Gladys, born April 22, 1890, now Mrs. Leo Witte of Glasgow Township, Wabasha County; Anna Carrabella, born August 1, 1891, who is the wife of Douglas Brown of Glasgow Township, Wabasha County; Joseph Emery, born September 1, 1897, who resides on the home farm with his parents. Mr. Borst is a member of the Farmers' Elevator Company of Lake City.

**Albert Rosolack**, who is following general farming and stock raising on a farm of 200 acres in sections 15 and 16, Elgin Township, was born in this township May 17, 1893, son of Julius and Louisa (Wagner) Rosolack. The father was a native of Germany who came to America when seven years old, his parents settling in Milwaukee, Wis. As a young man Julius Rosolack worked at any manual labor by which he could get a living. When 20 years old he enlisted in the Federal army and served three years in the Civil War. After his discharge from the army he went to Rochester, Minn., where for a few years he was employed in farm labor. When he had by industry and economy accumulated a little money, he engaged in farming on his own account, buying 120 acres in section 15, Elgin Township, which he cultivated until 1919. Having by that time realized a competence, he retired and took up his residence in Elgin village, where he is now living. His wife, Louisa, to whom he was married at the age of 26 years, died November 12, 1916. They were the parents of 9 children: Alfred, Albert, Emma, Ed, Robert, Lena, Louis, Laura and Theresa. Emma is now deceased. Ed resides at Douglass, Minn. Robert lives in Viola Township, Olmsted County. Lena is the wife of Gust Wondrow of Elgin Township. Louis is on a farm in Elgin Township. Laura and Theresa are residing with their father in Elgin village. Alfred Rosolack acquired his education in the district schools of Elgin Township. From his early youth he was brought up to farm work, and was associated with his father as his assistant on the home farm until 1916. He then rented 200 acres in sections 15 and 16, where he has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising on his own account with good financial results. His buildings are substantial and adequate, and his farm is equipped with all necessary implements and machinery. On March 19, 1919, Mr. Rosolack was united in marriage with Clara Swantz. He and his wife are German Lutherans in religion.

**Daniel B. Cowles**, an early settler in Elgin Township, where he developed a farm of 100 acres, was born in New York State, July 17, 1837, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Manus Cowles. The father moved to Wisconsin in 1844, and at Beaver Dam, that state, Daniel B. was united in marriage, November 14, 1861, to Addie M. Hutchinson, who was born August 8, 1842, and had come to Dodge County, Wisconsin, with her parents in 1854. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B. Cowles took a farm in that locality, where they remained until the fall of 1864, when they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, locating on a farm east of Plainview. In the spring of 1866 Mr. Cowles bought a farm of 100 acres in Elgin Township, section 25. It consisted of wild prairie land which Mr. Cowles had to break and develop. For his first residence he built a small frame house. Later he bought 40 acres more, in section 30, Plainview, which adjoined his other tract. He continued his improvements, rebuilding and enlarging his house, and erecting barns, a silo and outbuildings, until he



had brought his farm into excellent condition and made it a valuable property. In 1898 he retired from active work, but continued to reside on the place until November 5, 1919, when he moved to Elgin, where he died February 26, 1920. He was a Republican in politics and for some time served as treasurer of the local school board. Religiously he was affiliated with the Congregational church. His wife died May 28, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B. Cowles were the parents of three children: Elmer B., now operating a part of the old home farm in Elgin Township; Merton D., a farmer in Plainview Township; and Erwin M., now living retired in Elgin village.

**Merton D. Cowles**, a well known and respected citizen of section 19, Plainview Township, who has made an excellent record as an agriculturist, was born on his parents' homestead in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, January 8, 1870, son of Daniel B. and Addie M. (Hutchinson) Cowles. He was educated in the district school and early acquired a practical knowledge of farming as his father's assistant. In 1902 he bought a farm of 160 acres in section 19, Plainview Township, on which he is still living. Since taking possession of it he has purchased 80 acres more, besides an additional tract of 20 acres of timber land, making in all 260 acres. Eight acres of his property lies in section 30. Besides increasing the landed area of his property, Mr. Cowles has made a number of valuable improvements on it. The original house, which was a poor structure, has been replaced with a good ten-room residence. He has also erected a modern barn, 40 by 78 feet in dimensions, with cement basement, a tile silo, which is one of the largest in the township, a tool shed, sheep barn, hen house, corn crib and granary, all good substantial structures. His work has been general and diversified, including the raising of grain and stock, truck farming and dairying, and his business, being ably managed, has yielded good returns. He has recently bought property in Plainview, where he and his wife intend to make their future home. Mr. Cowles was married January 8, 1902, in Elba, Winona County, to Amelia Stitch, daughter of William and Anna (Nienow) Stitch. Her father was born in Illinois and her mother in Germany, the latter coming to this country when seven years old, and settling with her parents in Winona County, Minnesota, where she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Stitch had seven children, of whom two, Sarah and Donald, are now deceased. The five living are: Amelia L. (now Mrs. Cowles), Mathias, Elizabeth, William, Jr., and Corinne, the four last mentioned now residing on a farm in South Dakota. Mathias, who after spending ten years in South Dakota returned to Plainview in the spring of 1920, and will take charge of M. D. Cowles' farm on a rental basis. Mr. and Mrs. Cowles are the parents of four children: Dolores, Phyllis, Orville and Vera, all of whom are attending school. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Congregational church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Cowles are members. The former also belongs to the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie.

**Robert C. Klavetter**, a thriving farmer of Plainview Township, was born in Dodge County, Wis., September 24, 1876, son of Paul and Amelia (Grepegen) Klavetter. The parents were born in Germany, but married in Wisconsin. Coming to Minnesota in the fall of 1876 they settled in Winona County, where they remained about two years. In 1877 they bought 80 acres of school land in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, the tract being covered with heavy timber, and began improvements by the erection of a log shanty. The father grubbed and broke the land and in time erected other buildings, the family residing there 15 years. He then bought 40 acres in section 36, Plainview, and 26 acres in section 31, Whitewater Township, Winona County, later adding 80 more acres adjoining, which made a farm of 226 acres. This he operated until 1905, when he sold it to his son, Robert. In 1909 he retired from active work and moved to Plainview village, where he died in 1912. His wife is still living in Plainview. Their children were: Mattie, now Mrs. Henry Warner of Elgin; Rudolph, who resides in Kansas City, Mo.; Robert C., owner of the old home-



stead; Minnie, wife of C. W. Herman of Plainview Township; and Ida, who is the widow of John B. Lyons. Robert C. Klavetter was about a year old when his parents moved to Wabasha County. Later he attended the Woodland school and when old enough began to make himself useful on his parents' farm, of which in time he became the manager. In 1905 he bought the entire farm of 226 acres and has since operated it, raising grain, stock and other farm products. He keeps grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine and is doing a very successful farming business. On his property he has made a number of valuable improvements. In 1918 he erected a barn, 36 by 64 feet, with full basement and a modern equipment. He remodeled the house, adding a porch and some small outbuildings; erected a double corn crib with a driveway 20 by 26 feet, and built a reservoir 10 by 15 feet, which supplies water to the house and barn. On May 22, 1920, a cyclone came up from the southwest and passed over Mr. Klavetter's farm, completely destroying his barn, corn crib, hog house and chicken house, and taking his granary, 16 by 32 feet, completely off its foundation, and after carrying it two rods set it down in good condition without destroying the grain it contained. It also damaged the house, tore up trees and caused other devastation, his windmill and fences being destroyed. His four children were in the corn crib at the time, but received no injuries beyond a few scratches. Mr. Klavetter was entering the barn when the cyclone struck the farm and was struck on the head by one of the large doors and knocked senseless. On September 11, 1907, Mr. Klavetter was united in marriage with Marie Funke, who was born in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, April 22, 1886, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Funke. The children born of this union are: Ethel A., born December 14, 1908; Hazel F., December 15, 1912; Meade R., February 1, 1914; Eunice C., November 5, 1915, and Morris P., August 8, 1917. They have a wide circle of friends and stand high in the community as people of well ordered lives and good neighborly qualities.

**Charles A. Boehlke**, who is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising in Plainview Township, where he is a well known and respected citizen, was born in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., August 15, 1884. His education was acquired in the district school and the Plainview high school, his knowledge of agriculture in its various branches being gained on his parents' farm of 143 acres. After his father's death he rented the farm from his mother, and has since been engaged in its cultivation, also operating 30 acres of his own. Besides raising the usual grains, he keeps a good grade of stock, improving the breed with blooded sires, and he is now numbered among the prosperous citizens of his township. Aside from his direct farm interests he has an interest in the local creamery. Mr. Boehlke was married November 3, 1908, to Julia W. Zirbel, who was born in Minnesota City, Winona County, Minn., June 29, 1887. Two children are the issue of this marriage: Lucille H., born Oct. 31, 1915; and Dorothy La' Von, born August 3, 1918. Mr. Boehlke and his family are members of the Lutheran church, and are popular in the community for their good neighborly qualities.

**Andrew Best**, a former resident of Elgin Township, where for a number of years he was engaged in agriculture, but who is now living retired in Rochester, was born in Honey Creek Township, Sauk County, Wis., March 24, 1856, son of Sebastian and Margaret (Martz) Best. In his boyhood he attended school in Sauk City, where he was later employed in a sash and door factory, also for a while following the same occupation in Eau Claire, Wis. In 1876 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and entered the employ of William Cook, a farmer of Elgin Township, whose son-in-law he subsequently became, being married to Esther M. Cook (daughter of William and Anna B. Cook), September 3, 1879. She was born on her father's farm in section 31, Elgin Township, March 9, 1861. After his marriage Mr. Best, accompanied by his wife, went back to Sauk City, Wis., where he remained about a year. In 1880 he returned to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., and rented his father-in-law's farm, on which



he carried on general farming until 1894. He then bought 80 acres of Mr. Cook, which he farmed until his retirement and removal to Rochester in 1908. Mr. Best had a successful career as an agriculturist and acquired a competency. In Elgin Township and the vicinity he was widely known and popular. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Brotherhood of America. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Best have been the parents of five children: Eva M., born July 24, 1880, lived less than a year, dying March 18, 1881. The others, who survive, are: Bertha E., born January 13, 1884, now Mrs. John Westover of Grantsburg, Wis.; William A., born February 27, 1886, who is a general contractor in Rochester, Minn.; Addie E., born September 14, 1889, now a dressmaker in Rochester; and Edwin L., born March 8, 1894, who, like his brother William, is a contractor in Rochester.

**William Cook**, a pioneer of Elgin Township, now deceased, was born in Hull, England, November 9, 1820. He was educated in his native land, where he remained until arriving at the age of 21 years. Then in 1844 he emigrated to the United States, traveling westward until he reached Milwaukee, Wis. There he paused to look around, and soon took 40 acres of land in Washington County, Wis., which he proved up, and on it erected buildings. After remaining on that farm until 1856, he came to Wabasha County, Minn., pre-empting a claim of 160 acres in section 31, Elgin Township. On this land also he erected the necessary buildings, and also set out an apple orchard which soon became one of the best in the state. There for a quarter of a century he followed general farming successfully until his retirement in 1881. His subsequent years were spent in Rochester, Minn., where he passed away May 15, 1891, after having enjoyed nearly ten years of well earned leisure. He was a member of the Congregational church and belonged fraternally to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Cook was twice married, first on November 16, 1844, to Anna Wood. The children of that union were: Sophia, born July 27, 1845, who died December 13, 1914; Joseph H., born October 2, 1847, who died March 1, 1915; Elizabeth, born September 21, 1849, who died in the fall of 1918; Ann E., born October 28, 1851, who married Fred Eastman, who is now deceased. She subsequently married Mr. Hambrook of Santa Cruz, Calif. On November 17, 1852, Mr. Cook married, secondly, Mrs. Anna B. Studley, by whom he had four children, namely: Mary J., born October 8, 1859, who died March 20, 1897; Esther M., born March 9, 1861, now Mrs. Andrew Best of Rochester; Alice C., born January 20, 1863, who is the wife of Henry Neal, of Rochester, Minn.; and Iona, born July 15, 1867, now Mrs. Charles Sheal, of Mora, Minn.

**Charles W. Colling**, who is numbered in the ranks of the active business citizens of Mazeppa, and has served a number of years as a public official, was born in New York State December 3, 1862, son of Theodore and Mary (Niles) Colling. The parents were natives of Germany who came to the United States about 1858, the father being a cabinet-maker by trade. In 1867 the family came to Minnesota, settling at Hastings, where Theodore Colling followed his trade for eight years. At the end of that time they came to Mazeppa, and here the father continued in the cabinet-making and furniture business until his death. He was survived by his wife, who passed away June 4, 1919, at the venerable age of 93 years. They had a family of five children, those now living being: Peter, a resident of Jamestown, N. D.; Charles W., of Mazeppa; and Frank, of Red Wing, Minn. The two who died were Mary and Joseph. Mary was the wife of Charles Whipple, of Zumbrota, Goodhue County. Joseph died in North Dakota in 1917. Charles W. Colling was about five years old when his parents settled in Hastings, Minn., and there he subsequently attended the public schools. He accompanied the family to Mazeppa, and a few years later engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, being thus occupied for 16 years. He then sold the furniture department of his business to George Squires, retaining the undertaking department, which he carried on for eight years longer,









ARTHUR J. HODGE AND FAMILY



when he sold it to Nicholas Hilger. After that he engaged in farming, also dealing in western lands. He now owns a farm of 60 acres in Mazeppa Township, which he rents out. In April, 1919, he opened a pool hall in Mazeppa, in partnership with C. McKibbin, and in addition to the pool business they handle candy, cigars and tobacco, soft drinks and lunches. Mr. Colling has served several terms on the village board, and for one term was president. He was married in May, 1887, to Susan Schroeder, daughter of Peter and Anna Schroeder. Her father was born in Germany and was married in New York, where he first located on coming to this country. He and his wife came to Minnesota at an early day, taking a farm in Chester Township. They had seven children: Edward, May, Margaret, Mary, Susan, Victor, and Albert. Mr. and Mrs. Colling have been the parents of five children, one of whom, William, died at the age of 12 years. Those living are: Maud, wife of George Redding, of Mazeppa; Verona and Cecil, who are teachers; and Lucilie, who is residing at home.

**Arthur J. Hodge**, cashier of the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa, and one of the leading business men in this part of the county, was born in Lake City, Wabasha County, Minn., in February, 1857, being the first male white child born there. His parents were William W. and Mary M. (Teller) Hodge, who came to the Northwest from New York. The early settlement of the family in this country dates back to colonial times, the first ancestors here coming from England. William W. Hodge arrived at Lake City, Minn., in the early fifties, when this part of the country was a wilderness, and the white settlements were few and far between. He started the first nursery at Lake City, and also followed building and contracting until 1861, when he moved with his family to a farm in Olmsted County. There he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. Arthur J., who was their only child, was reared on the farm, and in his youth acquired a knowledge of agriculture. His elementary education was acquired in the district school, and he subsequently attended the high school at Rochester. Farming occupied his attention until 1908, in which year he came to Mazeppa. Prior to that, however, he was a director of the Hammond State Bank, and his subsequent career has been along financial lines. He was the organizer of the Farmers State Bank of Hammond in 1915, becoming a stockholder in the institution, and serving for a while as vice president. He organized and became cashier of the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa in 1909, and he is interested in numerous banks in North Dakota. He also deals in farm lands, and still owns the old homestead of his parents. Mr. Hodge was married in 1882 at Rochester, Minn., to Mary M. Herrick, daughter of George and Satina Herrick, natives of New York State, and a descendant of General Herrick, who served on the American side in the Revolutionary War. Her parents were early settlers in Minnesota and farmers by occupation. Both are now deceased. Of their seven children, five are now living: Frank, of Hammond; Minnie, a resident of Chatfield; Martha, widow of Mr. Banneman, residing at Faribault, Minn.; Georgie, wife of Thomas Robinson, of Rochester; Lena, wife of Will McDermott, of Luverne; and Mary M., who married A. J. Hodge, of Mazeppa. Mrs. Mary M. Hodge died very suddenly of pneumonia, December 12, 1919. To Mr. and Mrs. Hodge five children have been born, four of whom are living, namely: Josie, wife of Bert Mitchell, of Gardner, N. D.; Frank A., cashier in the Hammond State Bank; Gertrude, wife of Grover Mitchell, residing on a farm in Hammond; and Arthur, assistant cashier of the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa. The one deceased was William, who died in 1909. He married Maud Rolph, of Hammond, and they had four children, Merna, Wilda, William and Neva, all of whom are now living with their mother at Jarrets, Wabasha County. Although Mr. Hodge spent so many years of his life in farming, he has shown a business and financial ability that has placed him on a level with many bankers of long experience and made him a power in the community, for the good of which his talents and influence have been exercised. Though enterprising, he builds on a safe and sure foundation, and is sufficiently con-



servative to take no unwise risks. Since coming to Mazeppa he has proved an asset to the business interests of the place, and has a high reputation as a man and citizen.

**John Harvey**, now a wealthy resident of Rochester, Minn., where he is living retired, but who during his long and active career was identified with the agricultural interests of Wabasha and Olmsted Counties, was born in Demore, County Down, Ireland, August 10, 1866, son of Alexander and Jane (Titterington) Harvey. In 1882, a youth of 16, he came to the United States, taking up his residence with his uncle, James Titterington, in Elgin Village, Wabasha County, Minn., and for a while attended school in the village. Subsequently until 1890 he did farm labor in the vicinity, after which he started in for himself, renting a farm in Elgin Township. In 1896 he removed to a farm of 160 acres which he had purchased in section 31, and on which he made improvements in the shape of additions to the house and barn. During that period he also bought 40 acres in section 29, Elgin Township, and 100 acres in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, which increased his possessions to 300 acres. Of this land he sold a quarter section, but bought 240 acres in section 32, 40 acres in section 32 and 40 acres in section 29, Elgin Township. In 1907 he moved to the farm in section 29, and continued agricultural pursuits there until his retirement in 1919, when he took up his residence in Rochester. On the farm last mentioned in 1915 he built a basement barn 40 by 80 feet, also a chicken house, and erected a windmill. His landed possessions in Elgin and Farmington Townships include 540 acres, the result of nearly thirty years' hard and successful work as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Harvey served three years as a member of the Elgin creamery board, and is a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie. He is affiliated fraternally with the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star chapter, of which Mrs. Harvey is also a member, and religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. On April 21, 1892, Mr. Harvey was united in marriage with Hattie Bigelow, daughter of Frank M. and May (Hopson) Bigelow. To him and his wife nine children have been born, as follows: Clyde F., June 29, 1894; Ethel M., January 30, 1896; Cora L., March 16, 1901; Alex W., March 22, 1903; Alice R., February 1, 1906; Howard J., January 28, 1908; Ruby I., November 5, 1910; Helen, January 30, 1913; and Grace E., May 7, 1915. Clyde F. is now living on the home farm in section 29, Elgin Township. Ethel M. is the wife of John Spreck, and Cora L. the wife of Wayne Cunningham. The other members of the family are residing at home, the children of suitable age attending school.

**Edward A. Woodruff**, in former years a well known farmer and popular citizen of Elgin Township, now deceased, was born in Wisconsin, March 24, 1860, son of Henry C. and Polly (Whiting) Woodruff. Having come to Wabasha County when quite young, he was educated in the district schools of Elgin Township and in the Plainview high school. Subsequently until 1882 he worked in an elevator in Plainview Village. He then rented his father's farm in Elgin Township and operated it under rental until 1889. In that year in company with his father he purchased a fine farm of 160 acres in Elgin Township, and was engaged in its operation until his death on December 28, 1904. Mr. Woodruff was a thoroughly practical farmer in all branches of the industry, and was especially successful as a breeder of Guernsey and Shorthorn cattle, keeping full-blooded sires. As a citizen he was public spirited, having at heart the general interests of the community, while in his home he was a good husband and kind father. He was fraternally affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Woodruff was married, January 18, 1882, to Carrie H. Roberts, daughter of Dr. Francis H. and Helen M. (Perrine) Roberts, of Plainview, Wabasha County. Of this union two children were born: Nina H., February 9, 1885, and Hughes C., October 8, 1893. Nina H. is now the wife of Richard Cone, of Douglas, Minn., and Hughes C. is a resident of Rochester, Minn.









FRANCIS H. ROBERTS



**Francis Hughes Roberts, M. D.**, for nearly forty years a resident of Plainview, of which village he was one of the most highly esteemed citizens, was born in Franklin County, Indiana, June 23, 1831. He spent the years of childhood, youth and early manhood in Indiana and Ohio, where he also taught school for nine years. On October 5, 1858, he was married at Moores Hill, Dearborn County, Ind., to Helen Mars Perrine, and at about the same time he took up the study of medicine, being graduated from the Cleveland (Ohio) Medical College, February 28, 1861. In May, 1868, he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling in Plainview, where he continued in the practice of his profession until a short time before his death on March 6, 1908. He passed away at the home of his daughter near Rochester, being advanced in his seventy-eighth year. His funeral services and interment took place in Plainview, the Rev. G. H. Gamble, pastor of the Baptist church at Rochester, conducting the services in the church, while those at the grave were conducted by the Odd Fellows' lodge, of which Dr. Roberts had for some years been a prominent member. Such a brief biographical outline as the above, however, does scant justice to the life and work of this beloved physician, a significant testimony to which was seen in the large concourse of people who assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory. To many of these he had been not merely a physician but a friend and benefactor. It was owing to his generous nature and kindly sympathy for his patients that he failed to accumulate property, for it was his frequent custom to donate a whole or part of his bill when he knew or suspected that the payment would prove a hardship. But he left as a legacy to his children and friends the memory of a true Christian life spent in ministering to others. For 52 years he had been a faithful member of the Baptist church, and in all his relations as husband, father, friend, man and citizen, he attained an ideal standard, based on those christian principles which he not only professed but practiced. For exactly 25 years and 18 hours before his death Dr. Roberts had been a widower, his beloved wife Helen having passed away March 6, 1883. They were the parents of eight children, six of whom survived their father, and were present at his funeral, namely: Mrs. Carrie H. Woodruff, Mrs. S. T. Bigelow and Mrs. F. Domke, of Rochester; Mrs. A. Searles, of Elgin; A. C. Roberts, of Hammond, and Edward H. Roberts, of Newburg, N. D. Dr. Roberts also left three brothers: Dr. Samuel Roberts, of Lafayette, Ind., Ambrose Roberts, of Chicago, and William Roberts, of Andersonville, Ind.

**John C. Disney**, a pioneer of Gillford Township, was born in New York City, March 17, 1803, son of John and Catharine Disney. The parents were natives of Ireland who had emigrated to this country in about the closing years of the eighteenth century. Mrs. Catharine Disney died in New York City in March, 1805, at the age of 44 years, and her husband then returned to his native land, where he died in December, 1815, at the age of fifty-nine. Their son John remained with a sister at Richmond, Va., till twelve years old, when he ran away and joined the American army as a drummer, taking part in the War of 1812-15 with Great Britain. He subsequently traveled about the country, residing for a while in various places, but regarding New York as his home. On June 9, 1823, he married Lois Clark, and they made their home in Utica, N. Y., till about 1850, when Mr. Disney with his family moved to Virginia, where for several years he found employment on a plantation. They then returned to New York, which state continued to be their home until 1857. A considerable emigration from the East to Minnesota and other parts of the Northwest had set in a year or two previously, and Mr. Disney resolved to seek his fortune in the promising territory, which was soon to become a state. In 1858, therefore, he arrived with his family in Gillford Township, Wabasha County. There he took land and developed a farm, on which he resided until the fall of 1878. He then retired and bought a residence in Lake City, where he subsequently made his home until his death, October 27, 1880. His wife, Lois Clark Disney, died March 15, 1848, leaving four children, Robert T., John C., William J. and



Mary L., who became the wife of Edwin Bowen, of Joliet, Ill. All are now deceased except William J. On June 23, 1849, John C. Disney married for his second wife, Mary Sweetman, nee Wall, by whom he had four children: Kate, who married Albert Field, of Zumbro Falls; Lois, who married Byron Miller, and went to reside in Mexico, Oswego County, N. Y.; Charles, who became an attorney at Hudson, Wis.; and Alice, who married Charles Colby, of Lake City. By her first husband, Samuel Sweetman, Mrs. Mary Disney, had a daughter, Henrietta, who married Daniel Edwards, of Lake City. John C. Disney was a member of the Methodist church, and politically a Republican. The first school opened in the town of Gillford, was held in the kitchen of his house. All his sons by his first wife, served in the Civil and Indian Wars. He was a sturdy and patriotic American citizen who did his full share in the development and civilization of this region.

**William J. Disney**, a surviving pioneer of Wabasha County, residing in the village of Zumbro Falls, was born in Utica, N. Y., July 22, 1842, son of John C. and Lois (Clark) Disney. At the age of 15 he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., settling with them on a farm in Gillford Township, it being one of the first farms taken up there. There he spent 44 years of his life, carrying on the place after his father's retirement, and remaining on it until 1891, when he came to Zumbro Falls. Here he became interested in various business enterprises, buying stock, conducting a lumber yard, and also opening and carrying on a hardware store, in association with his three sons and his daughter. The business was carried on under the firm name of W. J. Disney & Sons until April, 1919, when it was sold out, and Mr. Disney retired from active business. He was one of the organizers of the Zumbro Falls State Bank, of which he is still a stockholder and director. In 1897 Mr. Disney was appointed postmaster of Zumbro Falls, and held the office subsequently for 17 years to the satisfaction of his fellow townspeople. He is a member of Ford Post 156, G. A. R. of Mazeppa, and stands high in Masonry being a Shriner and member of Lake City Commandery No. 6 of which his three sons also belong. His successful career was due to qualities of industry and self-reliance, cultivated from his earliest years, as when only eight years old he worked on a Virginia plantation for 25 cents a day, and subsequently accompanying his parents in their wanderings from one locality to another, in New York State and elsewhere, relieved them of much of the burden of his support. These early industrial habits precluded the opportunity of his acquiring a regular education, but in his scanty hours of leisure, as he grew older, he supplied to a large extent this deficiency by private study, mastering the ordinary branches of knowledge. The first meeting of the town board of Gillford was held at his house on the farm he purchased in 1868, adjoining that of his parents which he carried on while he also was managing the home farm, and his aid and influence have always been on the side of good government and the progressive development of the community in which he resided. He stands now among the few survivors of the "old guard" of pioneers who opened up and brought civilization to this region. Not only that, in his younger days he shouldered a musket and went forth to defend the Union from the attack of those who wished to destroy it, enlisting in 1864, in Company E. Eleventh Minnesota Infantry. His regiment was assigned to the Third Division, Fourth Brigade, of the Twentieth Army Corps, under the command of General Thomas, and under that able and stalwart leader he took part in the bloody battles of Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., besides a number of skirmishes, serving until the close of the war. He was one of the veterans who marched through cheering thousands in the streets of Washington in the grand review at the close of the great struggle, when President Lincoln and his cabinet, with most of the great northern generals were present—an inspiring occasion never to be forgotten by those who witnessed or took part in it. The ranks of the veterans are now thinned, but their memory will forever survive and their deeds be written on their country's





MR. AND MRS. W. J. DISNEY







roll of honor. It was some five years after the close of the war, on March 9, 1870, when Mr. Disney chose a bride in the person of Sarah M. Ward, daughter of Josiah and Roxana (Carrier) Ward, who were natives of Connecticut. The early ancestors of the Ward family in this country came from England and were among the first settlers in New England, being numbered among the Pilgrims who fled to America to escape religious persecution. An ancestor of Mrs. Disney, Joshua Ward, served in the Revolutionary War, entering the American service in 1776; and several others of the name were prominent in that struggle which won for this country its independence. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Disney had four children: Nellie, who is now keeping house for her father and mother; Burton W., cashier of the Zumbro Falls Farmers and Merchants State Bank; Erwin C., and Leonard W. Amidst a large gathering of friends and neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Disney celebrated their golden wedding on March 9, 1920.

**Joe L. Wurst**, a former resident of Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, now living retired in Rochester, Minn., is a man who has acquired a competence through well directed industry in agricultural and other pursuits. He was born in Oakwood Township, this county, October 17, 1868, son of Vincent and Mary (Gregor) Wurst, and was educated in the district school, remaining at home until 25 years of age. In 1893 he rented his father's farm, which he operated subsequently until 1899. During this time he bought 160 acres in Oakwood Township from George Richmond, and erected on it a house, barn and out-buildings. This farm he sold in 1899, buying 160 acres in Renville County, where he was engaged in farming until 1904. Then selling that farm also, he worked for two years in the flour mills. Having acquired a good knowledge of the milling industry, he bought a flour mill in Lyon County, Minn., which he operated very successfully until 1911. At the end of that time Mr. Wurst resumed farming, buying 174 acres in sections 31 and 32, Brown County, where he made his home for four years, selling the farm in 1915. Then he purchased 180 acres in section 33, Olmsted County, Minn. which he farmed until 1917. Having by that time acquired sufficient wealth to provide him with a reasonable income, he sold his farm for the last time, and took up his residence in Rochester, where he owns and conducts an apartment house of eight apartments, reserving two for himself and family. Mr. Wurst was united in marriage November 16, 1893, with Esther Geim, daughter of Valentine and Mellisa (Dull) Geim, well known farming people of Elgin Township. Mr. and Mrs. Wurst have been the parents of nine children: Ervin V., born January 8, 1895; Ida M., August 14, 1896; Gladys M., March 11, 1898; Florence G., August 27, 1900; Hazel L., July 11, 1902; Willis V., March 21, 1903; June M., June 19, 1905; Alice M., November 22, 1907; and Virgil W., December 25, 1912. Ervin V., who was drafted into the army May 25, 1918, was in the service nine months, seven months of which he spent in France, taking part in the bloody fighting in the Argonne Forest, where he was gassed. He is now residing at home. Ida M. and her sister Hazel, after residing at El Paso, Tex., for eight months, are now at home with their parents. Gladys M., Florence G., June M., Alice M. and Virgil W. are residing at home in Rochester, the three youngest attending school. Willis V. died September 22, 1914.

**Valentine Geim**, a retired farmer residing in Elgin Township, where he is well known and respected, was born December 15, 1847, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, son of John and Lucinda (Brundberg) Geim. He was quite young when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., and was educated in District School No. 56, Elgin Township. After working for his father until 1870, he bought the farm of 80 acres in section 4, Elgin Township, built a new barn and outbuildings, and was actively engaged in agriculture here until his retirement in 1909. A good practical farmer, he labored industriously to improve his place, and had a successful career. He was married, December 23, 1875, to Mellisa Dull, by whom he has had ten children, Mary, Esther, Lydia,



James, Oscar, Rosa, Orpha, Jessie, Elmer and Lottie. Oscar and Rosa are now deceased. Esther is the wife of Joe L. Wurst, now of Rochester; Mary, the wife of George Hanson, of Evan, Minn.; Orpha is now Mrs. W. B. Yunker of Rochester, and Lottie is the wife of Roland Briggs of Rochester, Minn.

**August F. Villwock**, proprietor of a farm of 280 acres in Oakwood Township, was born on this farm July 31, 1873, son of August and Amelia (Shaw) Villwock. The parents were natives of Germany who bought this land, 200 acres in section 29, at an early day, and developed it into a farm. Here the mother died in 1894, and the father in 1919. August F. Villwock was educated in the district school and received his agricultural training on the home farm, which he bought in 1904. He has improved the property quite extensively, having remodeled the house and built a full basement barn, 30 by 100 feet in dimensions. When he took possession of the farm it contained 200 acres, the other 80 acres having been his own purchase. His cattle of the Red Durham breed, the herd having a full-blooded sire. He also raises Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep, of the latter having a flock of 340, and French draft horses, shipping his own stock, for which he receives good prices. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is one of the reputable and esteemed citizens of Oakwood Township, energetic and enterprising, and interested in the general welfare of the community in which he resides.

**Benedict Lager**, in former years a well known farmer and highly respected citizen of Pepin Township, but now deceased, was born in Hanover, Germany, March 21, 1841, son of Bernard and Mary Ann Lager. He came to America with his parents, the family residing two or three years in East Dubuque. In 1859 they came to Wabasha County, Minn., settling on a farm in section 28, Pepin Township, about seven miles west of Wabasha. The land was wild, there were no roads, and Indians were numerous. Bernard Lager and his wife were hard workers and in time developed their land into one of the best farms in Pepin Township. Here they spent the rest of their lives respected and esteemed as good neighbors, and both died on the farm. They are buried in St. Felix Cemetery at Wabasha. Benedict Lager's education was begun in Germany, in the common schools, and he also attended school for awhile after coming to this country. He resided at home until his marriage in April, 1870, to Caroline, daughter of Bernard and Helen Welp of Pepin Township. She was born in Hanover, Germany, November 16, 1850, and came to America with her parents then ten years old, the family settling on Pepin Hill, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Lager immediately after their marriage took up their residence on the farm in sections 21 and 28, Pepin Township, which he operated successfully until his death in March, 1904. He then owned 280 acres and had improved the property, having built a fine brick house. He carried on extensive agricultural operations, raising both grain and stock. One of the leading citizens of his township, he served it as supervisor and assessor for a number of years, and was a member of the school board of District No. 3. Politically he was a Democrat. At his death he had accumulated a competence, leaving his family in good circumstances, and was a good husband, father and citizen. He and his family were members of St. Felix parish of the Catholic church, and he belonged also to St. Joseph's Society. He was faithful in all the obligations of life and a liberal supporter of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Benedict Lager were the parents of nine children, born as follows: Sophia M., February 12, 1871; Benedict, August 26, 1872; Edward, April 1, 1873; Mary, March 23, 1875; Frank, September 23, 1877; Joseph, October 22, 1879; Henry, April 7, 1882; Annie, September 2, 1884, and George, October 3, 1887. Sophia M., who married Anton Kennebec of Wabasha, died on Wabasha Hill in the spring of 1910, leaving ten children, Isabelle, Lizzetta, Agnes, Clara, Frank, Josepha, Edward, Marcella, Bernice and Ruth. Benedict, now a carpenter in Wabasha, married Anna Graden and has one child, Ervin J. Edward, who is a carpenter living in the State of Washington, married Catherine Dooley. Mary is now





MR. AND MRS. BENEDICT LAGER







Mrs. Edward Wise, Jr., of Lake City, and has three children, Edward, Ralph and Benedict. Frank, who is a railroad bridge carpenter residing in Minneapolis, married Ida Whaley and has two children, Benedict and John. Joseph, who is now a renter on the home farm, married Myrtle Elvira Berlin of Red Wing, January 9, 1907, and has three children, Florence, Dorothy and Frances. Henry is residing on Pepin Hill. Annie is the wife of William Mars, a farmer on Pepin Hill, and has two children, Elvira and Lavina. George, who also resides on Pepin Hill, married Mary Lager, who died December 26, 1915, leaving one child, Loraine.

**Thomas S. Miller**, formerly a well known and respected resident of the Village of Kellogg, where he lived for 40 years, was born in Kenton, Hardin County, O., March 24, 1852, son of Henry and Susana Miller. His parents were lifelong residents of that state, where they died many years ago. At an early age he came to Wisconsin, where he attended a district school. In 1872, at the age of 20, he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and settled in the Village of Kellogg, where he made his home until his death, April 27, 1912. Mr. Miller combined the occupations of carpenter and farmer, owning a small farm within the village limits. That he had the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens is shown by the fact that he served for some time as president of the village council and was treasurer of the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. He was also a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his untimely death at the age of 60 years was sincerely mourned. Mr. Miller was married May 30, 1872, to Sarah De Lorimier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George De Lorimier. Her father, who came from Canada, was of French extraction, while her mother was born in Missouri. They came to Wabasha Village from Dubuque, Ia., and farmed for some time in this vicinity until the death of Mrs. De Lorimier, March 31, 1868. After that event Mr. De Lorimier went to Kansas, and subsequently from that state to Bellingham, Wash., where he died in May, 1918, at the remarkable age of 100 years. He and his wife were Catholics in religion. They had in all 13 children, of whom six are now living: Adelaide, Philip, Katherine, Julia, Bert and Sarah. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Miller have been the parents of eleven children: George H., born April 6, 1873, who was killed on the railroad, February 7, 1913; Frances, born September 30, 1874, now the widow of John Kennedy, and residing at La Cross; Margaret A., born October 30, 1876, who is the wife of Andrew Espey of Sharon, Pa.; Ethel P. born August 15, 1878, now Mrs. Charles Erpelding of Gladbrook, Ia.; Ethel M., born October 10, 1881, now a resident of Minneapolis; Neva M., born February 22, 1883, wife of Hans Jensen of St. Charles, Minn.; Cora E., born March 15, 1887, wife of Peter Eichen of Saskatchewan, Canada; Steven T., born December 27, 1889, who died January 1, 1890; Thomas S., born in Kellogg January 20, 1892; Cecil L., born May 24, 1894, and Vivian M., born December 30, 1897, who was educated in the Kellogg high school, the Wabasha Normal, and the agricultural department of the State University, and is now a school teacher residing at home. Cecil L., who enlisted May 27, 1918, in Company A., 46th Regiment of Engineers, was one of the numerous victims of influenza, dying at Camp Benjamin Harrison, near Indianapolis, October 10, 1918. Ernest M. enlisted in May, 1917, being assigned to the 86th Division, 3d Prov. Eng., under General Kennon.

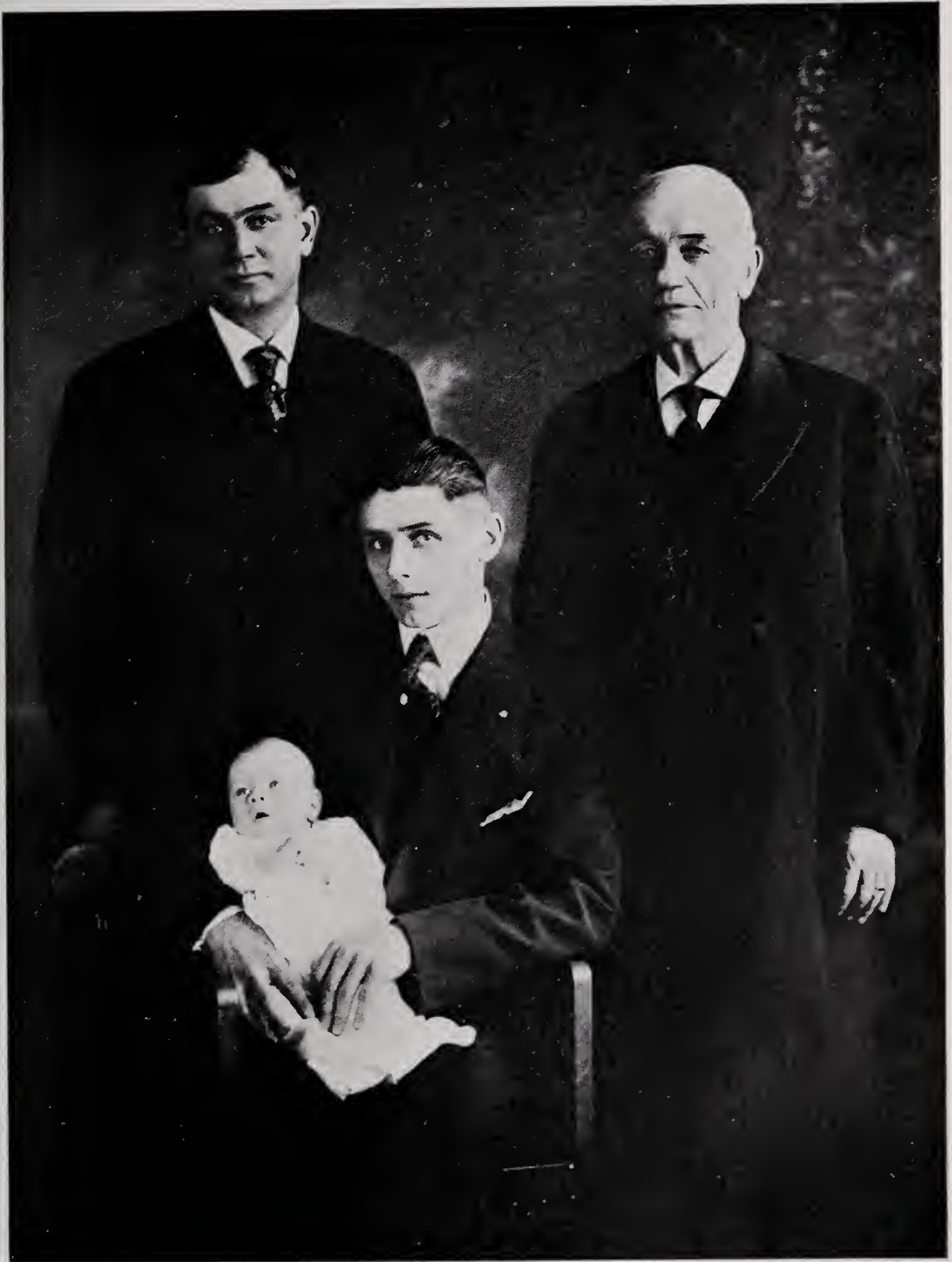
**Charles Wise**, an early settler, was born in Baden, Germany, in 1796, and there married Magdalena Lehman, who was born in that vicinity in 1800. In 1847 he came to America with his son, Anton, and the two worked at the trade of stone cutting. Two years later they were joined by two more sons, Ferdinand and Mathias, who worked at the same trade. In 1851 they sent for the rest of the family, consisting of the mother, and three children, Rosaline, Charles and Edward. The family lived for a while in Bradford County, Penn., and then in Tioga County, New York. In 1856 they came west, landing at Reed's Landing, this county, April 26. The family at that time consisted of



the father and mother, five brothers and one married sister. After looking about for a short time, they secured a tract of wild land in West Albany Township, this county. Here they built a small log house, and began to cope with the hardships of the wilderness. By strenuous work they managed to get two acres spaded in time for the planting season, and this tract they put in potatoes for winter use. Starting with but little money, and far away from railroad communication, the family for a time endured all the hardships of pioneer life. Fortunately, however, deer were plentiful, the potatoes had turned out well, salt and corn was to be obtained at Reed's Landing, and so with venison, potatoes and corn bread, the family subsisted until conditions were better. Not long after their arrival they secured a team of horses, the first in their immediate vicinity. After improved farming machinery began to reach the Northwest, they purchased and operated the first threshing outfit in the neighborhood. By hard work and frugality, assisted by the faithful labor of their family, the parents in time acquired a farm of nearly 600 acres. In 1867 they moved to Lake Township, and there also acquired considerable land. After a long and useful life, Mr. Wise died in 1877. His wife had passed away in 1869 and was the second to be buried in the Catholic cemetery in Lake City.

**Edward Wise**, retired farmer and business man, has seen the county grow from a wild, thinly settled frontier to one of the leading agriculture regions in the state, and in this development he has taken his due share and part. He was born in Baden, Germany, March 24, 1840, son of Charles and Magdalena (Lehman) Wise, and came to America in 1851 with his mother and sister, Rosaline, and brother, Charles, the father and three brothers having preceded them. The family lived in Pennsylvania and in New York, and in 1856 came to Wabasha County. An incident of the trip occurred at White Pigeon, Mich., when young Edward stepped from the train and lingered so long that even an exciting sprint did not enable him to again board it. He took a later train, however, and joined his family at Chicago. The first winter after their arrival in Wabasha County he secured work in a planing mill. Then for many years he worked on his father's farm, first in West Albany Township, and then in Lake Township. In 1887 he purchased 106 acres in Lake Township, four miles from Lake City. On this place he erected a good home, barn and other buildings. Soon, however, he had the misfortune to lose the barn by fire, the buildings and contents, horses, harnesses, hay and grain being totally destroyed. But with undaunted courage he rebuilt the barn, and was soon again on the road to prosperity. In 1879, he bought an interest in a brewery in Lake City, and moved to that city. This brewery had been purchased from John Minges by Charles, Edward and Ferdinand Wise, in 1870, and in 1876 passed into the sole possession of Charles, who operated it alone until he sold an interest to the subject of this sketch. A few years later they sold out. In 1883 Edward went to California, but after a few months came back to Lake City, and purchased 640 acres of partly improved land in Mt. Pleasant Township. Later he added 280 acres more. This large tract he operated through employees from his home in the city. Later, however, he divided the 920 acres into three farms and equipped each with a good set of buildings. These farms he now rents. In the meantime, in 1884, he and his brother, Charles, engaged in the farm implement business at Lake City. For the purpose of carrying on this business, they erected a two story brick veneered store and salesroom with iron front, on Center street, between Main and High streets. A little later they added a line of hardware to their business. In time Edward sold out his interest to his brother Charles, who thus became sole owner. Since then, he has lived practically a retired life, keeping in close touch, however, with his various interests. He has one of the finest homes in the city. His winters he spends in California or Florida, as he feels inclined. In addition to his real estate holdings he is interested in various projects in the city and county, including several banks. At one time he had considerable land in Traverse County, this state, but has now disposed of it.





EDWARD WISE: FOUR GENERATIONS







He is a substantial citizen, has made a success of life, and is highly regarded by all who know him. Mr. Wise was married August 6, 1865, to Anna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kraus, of Kellogg, this county, and this union has been blessed with nine children: Mary Agnes, Magdalena, Annie, Edward Henry, William, Anna Sophia, Agnes Anna, Frederick Mathias and "Al" F. Mary Agnes was born April 8, 1867, and married Albert Reding, of Lake City, now deceased. Magdalena was born December 29, 1868, and is the wife of B. C. Fick, of Lake City. Annie was born December 26, 1870, and is now dead. Edward Henry was born December 17, 1872, and is now engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Lake City. He married Mary Lager, of Pepin Township, this county, and they have three children, Edward B., Ralph and Anthony, commonly known as Dick. William Charles was born November 14, 1876, and is engaged in the hardware business in Lake City. He married Tressa Koch, of Wells Creek, this county, and they have one child, Florence. Anna Sophia was born November 5, 1878, and is now deceased. Agnes Anna was born November 1, 1880, and is now at home with her father. She married C. J. Matsch, who is engaged in the commission business in Lake City. Frederick Mathias was born October 25, 1863, and is engaged in the general mercantile business in Lake City. He married Theresa Kunz, of Minneapolis, and they have four children, Dorothy, Marjorie, Mary Elizabeth and Helen. "Al" F. Wise, born January 10, 1887, is in the hardware business in Lake City. He married Josephine Steichen of Winona and has three children, Robert, Marguerite and John. On Wednesday evening, March 24, 1920, the eightieth birthday of Edward Wise was celebrated at his home by a family gathering, all members of the family except one grandchild being present. Four generations were represented and have been perpetuated in a photograph of four Edwards in direct line, the youngest being a babe in arms.

**George Duncan**, whose recent death deprived the town of Mazeppa of one of its old and respected pioneer citizens, was born in Kergill parish, Perthshire, Scotland, November 22, 1830. He was reared to farm labor, and not long after attaining his majority, in March, 1852, he set out for the United States. Here he spent three years in farm labor in Monroe County, New York, and in Pennsylvania pineries. In 1855 he joined the stream of emigration to Minnesota, on June 8 that year locating land in the township of Mazeppa, Wabasha County. Four years later he sold out and settled on section 28, Chester Township, where he remained until 1876, when he moved to section 27 in the same township. There he established a farm of 120 acres, also becoming the owner of a similar tract in section 26. In 1872, though not desirous of public office, he was persuaded to serve as town supervisor, on account of receiving a unanimous vote. In politics he was a Republican. Mr. Duncan butchered and sold the first beef so handled in Mazeppa, in the fall of 1855. He arrived in this state with a very limited amount of capital, but through industry and sagacity finally became prosperous and well to do, being able to retire with a competence. His death occurred July 29, 1919. Mr. Duncan was married in June, 1858, to Martha A., daughter of Lewis Blunt, one of the pioneers of Mazeppa. Mrs. Duncan died March 16, 1875. She had born her husband ten children: Minnie, Cynthia A., George J., Ulysses Grant, Samuel, William L., Verona, Stella May, Libbie, and one that died in infancy. Minnie, who married William Lincecum, of Fort Worth, Texas, is now deceased. Cynthia became the wife of H. H. Judd, of Chester, this county, whom she survives, being now a resident of Mazeppa. She has had four children, Earl, Bradford, William, and Cassie, the last mentioned being the wife of Fred Frederickson of Zumbrota. In addition to Minnie, Libbie, Ulysses G. and Samuel are deceased.

**William L. Duncan**, a land proprietor and prosperous citizen of Mazeppa, was born in Chester Township, Wabasha County, March 4, 1866, son of George and Martha (Blunt) Duncan, who were pioneer farmers in that township. He was educated in the district school and reared to agricultural pursuits, working



on his parents' farm until he was 28 years old. He then began operations on his own account, working a farm formerly owned by his grandfather in Bear Valley, and was thus engaged until 1912. He then sold the home place, which had meanwhile come into his possession, and bought 120 acres in Chester Township, which he still owns. For two years he has been engaged as foreman on the state road. Mr. Duncan was married December 24, 1895, to Georgie A. Davis, daughter of Robert and Maria (Corser) Davis, and a grand-daughter, on the maternal side, of Benjamin Corser, who served in the War of 1812-15 with Great Britain. Her early ancestors in this country came from Scotland. Robert Davis, her father, was born in Nova Scotia, and came to Minnesota in 1856, taking a farm in Chester Township, Wabasha County, which he operated until his death in 1901. He served two years in the Civil War, enlisting from Minnesota, and also took part in suppressing the Indian outbreak. His wife is still living, and is now 92 years old. She resides with her daughter in Mazeppa. Mr. and Mrs. Davis had two sons and four daughters: Fred, Frank, Sadie, Mary, Gladys and Georgie, all of whom are now living, except Fred, who died in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Duncan are the parents of four daughters: Estella, assistant cashier in the Bank of Mazeppa; Frances, wife of C. R. Brown, of Kansas City, and Jessie and Jean, who are attending school.

Orville G. Nichols, proprietor of a well equipped and flourishing general store in Mazeppa, was born in Lake City, this county, in April, 1868, son of Isaac and Anette (Ford) Nichols, who were natives of New York state, but were married in Minnesota. The first ancestors of the Nichols family in this country came here from Scotland, and it must have been at a very early date, as there is a tradition in the family that one of them in direct line assisted in taking New York from the Dutch—an event that occurred in 1664. Isaac Nichols, the father of Orville G., came to Minnesota with the Ford family in the fall of 1855. From Reed's Landing, where he first set foot on Minnesota soil, he came to Mazeppa, where he subsequently resided for twenty years. Here he started and operated a saw-mill. Later he went from here to Lake City, where he was engaged in lumbering and conducting a meat market. In 1876 he moved with his family to Chicago, where he entered into the patent medicine business, residing there until his death in 1893. His son, Orville G. Nichols, who had accompanied the family to Chicago, at the age of 10 years returned to Mazeppa, taking up his residence with the Ford family. He attended school here and was employed in the Ford general store until he was 21 years old. He then returned to Chicago and for five years was engaged in the supply business there. He then returned again to Mazeppa and bought an interest in the Ford store, which, there being other partners then associated, was conducted under the style of Rucker, Robinson & Nichols. Edwin L. Ford had an interest until his death in 1908. In 1912 Mr. Nichols purchased the interest of the other partners and has since been sole proprietor of the store, conducting the business under the style of Nichols & Co., and handling all classes of goods in ordinary demand except drugs and hardware. His store is the largest of its kind in the village and enjoys a large patronage. For twenty years he has served as a member of the school board, and has also been a member of the council and clerk of the village. He is fraternally associated with the Blue Lodge of Masons, the Elks and the United Workmen. Mr. Nichols was married at Goodhue, Minn., to Harriet Rucker, daughter of Jacob and Lena Rucker, of Lake City. Her father was a native of Germany and her mother of Switzerland. The former, a harness-maker by trade, died in 1870. The mother, who was twice married, is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rucker had two sons and two daughters, and there were two sons born of Mrs. Rucker's other marriage, Mrs. Nichols thus having one sister and two brothers, and two half brothers. Mr. and Mrs. Nichols are the parents of four children: Corrinne, Josephine, Earl and Francis. Corrinne, who attended the Stout Institute in Wisconsin, is now a teacher in North Dakota; Josephine and Earl are









DR. THEODORE M. PESCH AND FAMILY



now students at the University of Minnesota, the former studying pharmacy and the latter forestry. Francis is residing at home and attending high school.

**William Thomas Adams, M. D.**, for more than 40 years a highly esteemed citizen of Elgin, where he was successfully engaged in the practice of his profession, was born at Utica, N. Y., August 7, 1849, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Adams. His elementary education was obtained in a common school in his native city, and he subsequently attended an academy there. In 1864 he came with his parents to Plainview, Minn., and became a student at Carleton College. Later he entered upon the study of medicine and was graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1875. The rest of his life was spent in the practice of his profession in Elgin, where he became one of the most honored and best beloved residents, winning a place in the hearts of all who knew him. His life was long service to his fellow men. Able as a physician, he was also closely identified with the growth and development of the village, on all urgent occasions manifesting a fine public spirit. On August 29, 1875, Dr. Adams was married to Miss Nellie Gibbs of Plainview, and in the following year took up their abode in Elgin. Mrs. Adams proved a worthy helpmate to her husband and was a popular member of Elgin society. The issue of their marriage was one daughter, Grace, who died when a small child, and two sons, Carl of St. Charles, Minn., and Frank, of Lima Springs, Iowa. Dr. Adams' useful and active career came to end on Wednesday, April 25, 1917, when he passed away at his home after over a year's suffering from heart trouble. His trouble had been of long standing, but until the death of Mrs. Adams, which occurred December 28, 1915, he had been able to attend to his practice regularly. Soon after her death he had a breakdown and for two weeks was very ill, recovering partially, however, and being able to attend to his practice for short periods. In December, 1916, he became worse and was confined to his house during the winter months, gradually failing until the end came. Besides his two sons he left three brothers: John, of Vancouver, Wash.; Abner, of Morris-town, and Charles, of Fribley; and two sisters, Mrs. Minta Roedler and Mrs. Jennie Carr, of Minneapolis.

**Carleton C. Adams**, once a resident of this county, was born in Elgin Village, June 3, 1883, son of Dr. William T. and Nellie (Gibbs) Adams. In his boyhood he attended the Elgin school and was graduated from the high school in 1902. He then became a student at Minnesota University, taking a course in pharmacy and graduating in 1905. On his return from college he took a position in the Charles Burchardt drug store in Plainview, where he remained until 1907. In that year he went to Dodge Center, Minn., where he worked until 1910. The next two years he spent at Foley, Minn., and in 1912 went to St. Charles, Minn., where he is now residing, being employed by the drug concern of Frisch & Co. Mr. Adams is a member of the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star. His religious affiliations are with the Congregational church. He was married October 16, 1906, to Bernice Richardson, and he and his wife are the parents of three children: Michael C., born January 18, 1908; Gene M., born August 7, 1910, and Barbara E., born September 5, 1912.

**Theodore M. Pesch, D. D. S.**, of Elgin, a rising young member of his profession, is a native son of Wabasha County, having been born in Wabasha Village January 29, 1893, son of Henry H. and Annie S. (Loechler) Pesch. The father, a sturdy blacksmith in Wabasha, after following his trade there for a number of years, later moved with his family to Lake City, and in 1901 to Mazeppa, continuing his active career until 1917, since which time he and his wife have lived retired. Theodore M. Pesch acquired his literary education in the public schools of Mazeppa, and the Creighton High, at the College of Arts under private tutorship, together with his freshman year. He began the study of his profession in the Creighton Dental College at Omaha, Nebr., where he remained one year. He then entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in the class of 1916, and in the same year he



opened his office in Elgin, where he has since been engaged in dental surgery and laboratory work in all its branches, according to the most modern and scientific methods. A close student of his profession, he has attained a high degree of proficiency and built up a considerable practice. He is a member of the Minnesota National Dental Association, the Southeastern Dental Society, and the National Dental Association. As a man with a permanent stake in the community, he takes an active part in all enterprises tending to its benefit and advancement, and has established a reputation as a good, reliable and useful citizen. Dr. Pesch was married September 29, 1915, in Chicago, Ill., to Matilda Majerus, daughter of John N. Majerus, who resides at Mazeppa. She was born in Wabasha County, town of Chester. He and his wife have one child, Delores L., who was born December 10, 1916.

**Louis A. Phillips**, editor and proprietor of the Mazeppa Journal, was born in Mazeppa, Minn., December 14, 1881, son of S. Phillips and his wife, Minna. The parents came to Minnesota in 1873 and to Mazeppa in 1876. The father, who was for many years a prominent merchant here, died in 1907. The mother, who was born in Germany in 1842, came to the United States in 1860, and was married to S. Phillips in Illinois in 1865. Their children were: Samuel A., born in 1866; Rachael, 1867; Herman H., 1870; David, 1872; Joseph, 1873, and Louis A., 1881. Samuel died in 1916 and Joseph in 1897. Rachael is now Mrs. G. H. Squire. Louis A. Phillips attended the Mazeppa public and high schools, graduating in 1898. After several years' residence in Minneapolis and the east, and some experience in editing a daily paper at Faribault, he bought the Mazeppa Journal in October, 1905, and united it with the Mazeppa Tribune in June, 1908, under the name of the Mazeppa Journal. In 1912 he erected the building at present used by this publication. Mr. Phillips was married August 12, 1915, at Iron Mountain, Mich., to Winnifred M. Corning, daughter of George T. and Ida M. (Adams) Corning. Mrs. Phillips is a direct descendant on the maternal side of Henry Adams, who came to New England in 1640, settling in Braintree, Mass. Several of her ancestors took part in the Revolutionary War. John Quincy Adams, sixth president of the United States (1825-1829) was also a descendant of one branch of the Adams family.

**John Peter Nepper**, a pioneer of Minnieska Township, was born in Belgium, and came to this country in the middle fifties. After his marriage in 1858 he settled on his present place in section 32. While the first settlers had arrived several years before, the country was still wild. Steamboats were practically the only source of supplies, and practically the only means of communication with the outside world. Indians roamed the country at will, for although they had signed the treaties relinquishing their land, they were still reluctant to be confined to their reservation on the Minnesota. They were still uncivilized, living by hunting and fishing, wearing practically no clothing in summer, and huddling into their skin tepees in the winter. They were persistent beggars, but were outwardly friendly, and aside from the fact that their appearance once in a while frightened women and children, they did no harm. The Nepper family lived in true pioneer fashion. Mr. Nepper's first home was a log cabin, the primitive structure having a roof of shakes and a dirt floor. The barn was of straw. The first crops were planted among the stumps. With the passing of the years, better conditions came. By hard work, Mr. Nepper made for himself a place in the community, and built up a good farm with suitable buildings and equipment. He was esteemed by his fellow men, and after holding various local positions was elected county commissioner in 1892. In his latter years he retired from active work. He died in 1905. Mr. Nepper was married in 1858 to Annie Agnes. She was born in Luxemburg, and came to America in 1856. Making her way directly to Minnieska Township, she took up her home with her brother, Michael Agnes, who with Louis Krutely was the first settler in the township. She, like the other members of her family, had all the experiences of pioneer life, one of her winters before her marriage being









D. E. EARSLEY



spent in cooking for her brother and his gang of woodchoppers, who were cutting fire wood for steamers along this part of the Mississippi. Mr. and Mrs. Nepper had six children, four of whom are living and two dead.

**Peter Nepper**, chairman of the town board of Minnieska, and descended from two families prominent in the annals of the county, is farming 240 acres in section 32, and is not only making a success of his chosen vocation but is also doing active work in public affairs which is tending toward the progress and upbuilding of the community in which he is making his home. He was born on the place where he now lives, February 23, 1865; the son of John Peter and Annie (Agnes) Nepper, the pioneers and great-nephew of Michael Agnes, the first settler. He was reared on the home farm, received excellent training, and early took an interest in public life. After attaining the years of manhood, he rented the home farm for a while and finally came into its possession. He has occupied many local offices, has been a member of the town board for twenty-one years and chairman since 1901. His fraternal relations are with the Catholic Foresters. Mr. Nepper was married in 1860 to Mary Heaser, daughter of Michael and Catherine (Davidshofer) Heaser, who were early settlers of Trout Valley, Winona County. He was a Civil War veteran, and this union has been blessed with six children: Veronica, Margaret, Katherine, Minnie, died during the winter of 1919 with influenza, Frederick and Mary. Veronica, now deceased, married Harry Thompson, and left two small daughters, Mary and Margaret. Margaret married Alfred Johnson, of Watopa Township, this county, and has three children, Roy, Veronica and Lovetta.

**Allen E. Laufenburger**, cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Minneiska, was born in Winona, Minn., December 5, 1892, son of William B. and Sophia Laufenburger. The family ancestry is both French and German, and the grandfather of Allen E. was an early settler in Winona County, where his son, William B., Allen's father, was born. The latter is now living in Winona, retired. His wife Sophia was born in Iowa. Allen E. Laufenburger was reared on his parents' farm. His primary education was obtained in the district schools, and he subsequently attended the Winona Business College. After completing the course there he went into the Merchants Bank of Winona as messenger, and was successively promoted to the positions of bookkeeper, draft clerk and assistant teller. Then going to Lewiston, he became assistant cashier in the Security State Bank, remaining there two years. After that he spent a year in banking work in North Dakota. In the fall of 1917 he came to Minneiska and opened the Farmers State Bank as cashier, a position in which he has proved his capacity and acquired popularity with the patrons of the institution. On November 27, 1919, Mr. Laufenburger was married in Winona to Florence Schwebel, daughter of Peter and Julia Schwebel of Winona. Though a young man of 27 years, Mr. Laufenburger has acquired a good knowledge of financial affairs and has risen to a responsible position, the practical management of the bank being largely in his hands. He has made a good start on an honorable and profitable career and his friends predict for him a bright future.

**Delbert E. Earsley**, proprietor of the D. E. Earsley elevator, at Elgin, was born in Utica Township, Olmsted County, Minn., March 22, 1869, son of Cyrus H. and Rhoda (Raymond) Earsley. The father and mother, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New York State, came west to Minnesota about 1861, and purchased 160 acres of land in Utica Township, which was wild and heavily timbered. By long and untiring effort, interrupted only by a period of service in the Civil War, Cyrus H. Earsley cut and grubbed out the timber and developed the land, also erecting a residence and outbuildings. There he followed general agriculture until 1890, when he retired to the Village of Utica, where he and his wife are still living, he being occupied in driving one of the rural mail routes out of that village. They were the parents of six children: Wallace, now deceased; Delbert E., of Elgin; Flora, residing at home with her parents; Frank, a farmer of Fremont, Minn.; Anna, deceased; Ed-



ward, now living in Winona; and James, residing in North Dakota. Delbert E. Earsley was educated in the public schools of Utica, after which he started in the elevator business there, as an employe of the Seefield Elevator Co. Later he was connected with the Marfield Elevator Co., of Winona, and still later with the Western Elevator Co. In 1912 Mr. Earsley came to Elgin and purchased the elevator of the Western Elevator Co., engaging in business for himself. He has gained an extensive patronage and is now numbered among the leading business men of the village. Handles, buys and sells all kinds of grain, coal, feed, salt and farm machinery, and aside from his own immediate concerns, is interested in all projects that are for the betterment of the community in which he had made his home. He has done good service as a member of the village council. His fraternal affiliations are with Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., the Modern Woodmen of America, both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. Politically he is a Republican. Mr. Earsley was married March 26, 1896, to Ethie Ellsworth, of Utica, and of this union two children have been born: Etta M., November 27, 1898, and Harold E., March 26, 1908. Etta M. was graduated from the state School of Faribault for the Deaf, in the class of 1916, and is now a student at the Calludet College at Washington, D. C. Harold E. is attending public school in Elgin. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent in the higher social circles of Elgin.

**Alexander Scott**, for 40 years a prominent business man of Elgin Village, where he died May 6, 1919, was born in County Donegal, Ireland, November 10, 1850. He was educated in his native land and at the age of 16 years came to America, locating first in Boston, Mass., where he resided for about two years. From that city he went to Woburn, Mass., where he worked on a farm. Then removing to Cambridge, Mass., he took up the trade of carriage maker, at which he worked until 1871. The next two years of his life were spent in Amesbury, Mass. Then in 1873 he came west, locating at Windom, in Cottonwood County, Minn., from which place he moved to Elgin, Wabasha County, where he arrived on July 12, 1873. In the fall of the same year Mr. Scott became a partner with H. G. Hale in the wagon making business, and they were associated together until 1875, in which year he purchased Mr. Hale's interests, and for 40 years thereafter successfully carried on the business, his shop being known to all the farmers for many miles around, and his reputation as a mechanic and business man being of the best. As a citizen he was active in the affairs of the village, serving efficiently on the school board for a number of years, and for ten years being secretary of the village council. He was a member of the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star, also of the Old Settlers Association of Elgin, and attended the M. E. church. Mr. Scott was married December 25, 1878, to Ida A. Rollins, daughter of Irvin W. and Ellen (Keith) Rollins, of Elgin Township, and their home was blessed by the birth of five children: Jettie I., born October 16, 1879, who died April 30, 1888; Winnifred E., born May 26, 1882, who died March 9, 1883; Irwin E., born April 6, 1886, who is living in the old home just east of the Village of Elgin; Ethel M., born March 5, 1893, now employed in the art department of the Thompson Lumber Company at Minneapolis; and Florence E., born January 26, 1895, who is teaching school at Worthington, Minn. For a number of years Mrs. Scott was an active member of the Eastern Star chapter of Elgin.

**Irvin Washington Rollins**, Minnesota pioneer, and for nearly 40 years a resident of Elgin, who passed from this life on February 13, 1895, was a man universally honored for his sterling character. He was born in East Orange, Orange County, Vt., January 18, 1829, son of Laban and Nancy Rollins. The family name was originally written Rowlings. The immediate ancestors of the subject of this sketch, one of whom was the well known Deacon Colby, were worthy and sturdy citizens of Orange County. Laban Rollins, the father, was a shoemaker in East Orange, but in 1837, when Irvin was eight years old, he moved to Topsham, Vt., where the family resided on a farm. Irvin attended



school in both East Orange and Topsham, and also for a while the academy at Corinth. He was never a strong child, and when a young man he was prostrated with typhoid fever, the effects of which lingered with him during his whole life. He was of a lovable disposition, quiet and fond of solitude. Still he was no recluse, but could on suitable occasions indulge in fun and frolic. His sense of justice and right were very exact, and these qualities, with his manly conduct, won for him at school the name of "Judge." He applied himself with marked and untiring diligence to his studies, and prepared himself for the work of teaching. He continued this professional work through eight or ten winters; the summers he spent on the farm. About this time he went to Manchester, N. H., where he worked in the mills. In the autumn of 1855 Irvin Rollins and his brother Orvis came to Minnesota, taking claims east of Plainview, Wabasha County, where they built a cabin in which, with Ezra and Enoch Dickerman, they spent the winter. In the spring of 1856, finding that they had located upon the Sioux reservation, and doubting the legality of their title, they removed to Elgin. The Whitewater flowed smoothly past their new cabin. The first summer brought them plenty of garden vegetables, and also some famous water melons. The summer of 1857 was spent in erecting a part of the farm house now standing, and Laban and Nancy Rollins, with their family, came to occupy the new home. Early in 1859 Irvin Rollins returned to Vermont, and was married April 4, to Ellen Keith, whom he brought at once to Elgin. Though not strong in body, by care and prudence Mr. Rollins made farming pay. His farm was always in order. He was a pioneer in fruit culture, and for many years kept a good nursery. He made a careful and thorough study of bees and every season produced a large quantity of honey. Though never an office seeker, he was closely connected with public affairs. He was the first justice of the peace in Elgin, and deeds and mortgages were in the early days executed by his hand. For many years he was clerk of the Town of Elgin, the supervisors often meeting at his house. A man of strong religious convictions, he served as trustee of the Methodist church, and was for years superintendent of the Sunday school. At any early period he identified himself with the prohibition party. One of his leading characteristics was his sense of order and system. For 46 years he kept a diary, in which he jotted down every item of interest or value. He was a thoroughly furnished man, a careful reader with correct judgment and patience. Mr. Rollins was a lover of home. It was his kingdom and he its ruler. In his wife, Ellen Keith, he found a worthy helpmeet, a noble woman with queenly gifts and christian grace, whose good deeds have kept her memory fresh. They carefully guarded their home and their lives gave it the sacredness of a sanctuary. Their family consisted of four children, Ida, Flora, Frank and Mary, all of whom still live, except Mary, who died December 28, 1908. Mrs. Rollins, after 32 years of consecrated service to her home, her husband and her family, passed triumphantly from earth to heaven, on April 4, 1891, the same day of the month on which she was married. Her death brought into Mr. Rollins' life a solitude from which he never recovered. Mr. Rollins never forgot the home of his childhood, to which he made several visits, on the first occasion taking all his children with him, the last being made in the autumn before his death. He often talked of the old friends and old places, the old orchard and the old spring at the foot of the hill. He was a man of industrious habits and prudent economy; in disposition retiring and humble, with a heart full of sympathy and tenderness. His soul was full of music and he was for years a member of the church choir. His last sickness continued about three weeks, and on Sunday, February 13, 1895, he passed peacefully away on the anniversary of his mother's birth. "A hoary head is a crown of glory when it is found in the way of righteousness."

**Edward L. Hustleby**, who after a long experience in the river transportation of industry, is now conducting a profitable mercantile business at Read's



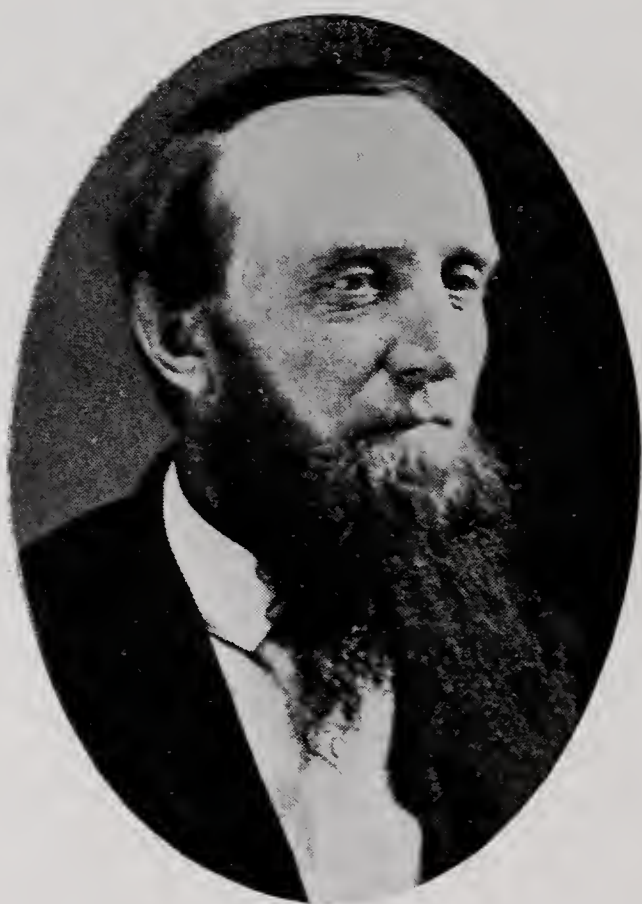
Landing, was born in Vienna Township, Dane County, Wis., June 24, 1861, son of John C. and Sarah A. (Beedle) Hustleby. The father was for many years a pilot on the Mississippi river, which occupation he left for a time to engage in farming in Dane County, Wis. After a while he resumed work on the river, and died at the wheel at Quincy, Ill., in 1896. He and his wife had six children: Clara, now deceased; Hiram C., who is customs officer at Niagara Falls, N. Y.; Edward L., subject of this sketch; William A., residing in Tacoma, Wash., and Lucian and Eugene, of Rochester, N. Y. Edward L. Hustleby received a common school education, and at the age of 18 began working on river boats as roustabout, fireman and in general work, being thus occupied for two years. In the meanwhile he took every opportunity to acquire a knowledge of marine engines and in 1892 was granted engineer's papers. For 31 years he was employed on "raft boats," but from 1913 to 1917 was engineer on the steamer Frontenac, once belonging to Laird & Norton of Winona, but in later years sold to St. Charles people and by them operated as an excursion boat. While Mr. Hustleby was still running on it, the Frontenac collided with the Burlington railroad bridge at Winona and sunk, and this ended Mr. Hustleby's career on the river, as no other suitable job was then available. In June, 1918, Mr. Hustleby entered the mercantile field, opening a general store at Read's Landing, which he is now successfully operating, keeping a well assorted stock of general merchandise, and also holding the position of postmaster. A man of steady and reliable character, he has made many friends and is respected in the community, and well known for many miles around. He has been president of the school board for several years, and politically is a Republican. On March 4, 1890, Mr. Hustleby was united in marriage with Missouri Smith, who was born at Read's Landing, August 4, 1871, daughter of Russell M. and Laura E. (Allen) Smith, and they began domestic life here, where they have since resided. They have three children, William E., Garnet E. and Gladys S. William E., born September 12, 1892, is now living in St. Paul, in the employ of the State Railway Commission. He married Isabel Zurbus, of Melrose, Minn., and has one child, Jean C., who has graduated from the Wabasha high school and the Minneapolis Business College. Garnet E., born November 16, 1895, graduated from the high school, and subsequently spent three years at Hamline College. He is now his father's assistant postmaster and clerk. Gladys S., born September 22, 1897, graduated from the Wabasha high school, had one year of normal school training, and is clerk in the Great Northern office at St. Paul.

**Russell M. Smith**, in former years a well known pilot on the upper Mississippi river, was born in Buffalo, N. Y., November 17, 1833, and grew to manhood in that locality, acquiring his education in the common school. When a young man he found occupation on the Lakes and in time became a captain, being thus employed for some years. In 1859 he came to Read's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., and for a number of years thereafter was engaged as a "floating pilot," bringing lumber cribs down the Chippewa river to the Mississippi. For some years he operated the steamer Alvira, which was the first boat to take a raft from La Crosse and the second to take a boat from Read's Landing. He was also pilot of the steamer Union when it took the first raft from Read's Landing. Captain Smith was engaged in river work up to the time of his death, which occurred at his home at Read's Landing, April 7, 1890. He was a man of good reputation as pilot, neighbor and citizen, and in his home a model husband and father. Politically he was a Democrat. At the time of his death he owned a nice residence and other property at Read's Landing. Capt. R. M. Smith was married at Nauvoo, Ill., May 14, 1861, by Joseph Smith, then justice of the peace and later head of the Church of Latter Day Saints, to Laura E. Allen. Mrs. Smith survived her husband nearly 18 years, passing away at her home at Read's Landing, January 18, 1918. They were the parents of seven children: Maria Minnesota, born September 19, 1862, who is now Mrs. G. G. Tuttle of Tacoma, Wash.; Allan Rufus, born November 16, 1865, who died Sep-









MR. AND MRS. CURTIS BRYANT



tember 19, 1875; Russell Ninevah, born February 12, 1869, now residing at Alma, Wis.; Missouri M., born August 4, 1871, who was married March 4, 1890, to E. L. Hustleby of Read's Landing; Harry Hendricks, born November 13, 1876, who was married July 18, 1906, to Margaret Tarnutzer, and resides at Read's Landing; Laura Elizabeth, born October 30, 1879, who was married December 25, 1897, to Homer Thompson of Minneapolis, Minn., and Jessie Lucinda, born February 9, 1885, who was married to John Westling of Minneapolis.

**Curtis Bryant**, a pioneer of Wabasha County who may be termed the founder of the Village of Elgin, was born in the Town of Middlesex, Washington County, Vermont, September 6, 1833. His early years were spent on his parents' farm, on which he worked, attending school during the winter. He also attended the academy at Barre, Vt., and taught school one term. In the spring of 1855 he started west, and on April 7, in company with George Bryant, Henry H. Atherton and George Farrar, after a tramp across the prairies from Winona, halted for the night on the banks of the Whitewater and made their camp on the village site of Elgin. They thought it a wonderful country and decided to go no further. Fifteen days later Mr. Bryant filed his claim on the northeast quarter of section 28, the farm later owned by C. H. Siem, which was the Bryant home for many years. He went to work immediately to build up the place, and in time developed it into a fine farm. He also acquired large tracts of land in South Dakota. Prior to the building of the railroad through Elgin in 1878, Mr. Bryant engaged in the general mercantile business as a member of the firm of Bryant Bros. & Johnson, and they built the first elevator in the village, marketing the grain with teams at Eyota. After the railroad was built, the elevator was placed on the siding, and is the one now owned by D. E. Earsley, who is doing a large business. Mr. Bryant had a successful business career, which, however, was not without its drawbacks. In October, 1873, he had the misfortune to be on a stock train which was wrecked on the North Western line near Chicago, owing to a broken rail. The cars went down a 15-foot embankment and Mr. Bryant sustained an injury to his spine which confined him to his bed for more than a year. In the cyclone of 1883 he sustained a loss of over five thousand dollars. Mr. Bryant survived these misfortunes, however, and lived to the age of nearly 83 years, passing away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank Gillooly, on Friday, August 25, 1916. For a year or two previously he had been in poor health. He was an honored resident of this locality and a man who took a great interest in the progress of events. For a number of years he was president of the Old Settlers' Association of Elgin. He was also a charter member of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., in which he retained his active interest. His faithful and loving wife, Mrs. Mary Colby (Bryant), whom he married August 1, 1861, had passed away some years previously, on March 9, 1907, at the age of nearly 65 years. She was born in East Orange, Vt., May 2, 1842, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Colby, and came to Minnesota in August, 1859. Before coming here she taught one term of school in Wisconsin, and afterward one term in Elgin. Her marriage to Mr. Bryant took place August 1, 1861, and they were the parents of three children: Nellie M., now Mrs. M. Frank Gillooly of Elgin; Charles L., deceased, married Ida McHugh of Viola, Minn., and left two children, Bernard, deceased, and Beulah, now the wife of George Pries of Viola, Minn.; and Lute E., of Clarkston, Wash., who married Mabel Richardson of Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn. Mrs. Bryant's life was that of an earnest Christian woman, and as she lived, so she died, and it will be long e'er her memory will fade.

**M. Frank Gillooly**, proprietor of the old Curtis Bryant farm on the outskirts of Elgin Village, which he is now operating, is a man who has had a wide and varied experience in the West and Southwest as stage driver, cowboy and ranchman in the days when those callings were surrounded by the halo of romance, and not unassociated with danger. He was born at Dewitt, Ia., August



15, 1859, son of Malachi and Margaret (Keefe) Gillooly. The father was born in Ireland and on coming to America settled in New Orleans, where for nine years he was a member of the police force. There he married Margaret Keefe, who was a native of that city. After their marriage they migrated north and located on a homestead in Clinton County, Ia., where they spent the rest of their lives engaged in agriculture. They had a family of ten children: John, James, Patrick, Katherine, Julia, Mary Ann, Margaret, Theresa, M. Frank and Sarah Jane, of whom those now living are James, Patrick, Katherine and M. Frank. Mr. Gillooly died September 24, 1893, aged 86 years, and Mrs. Gillooly died July 31, 1895, aged 76. M. Frank Gillooly was educated in the public schools of Dewitt, Clinton County, Ia. He remained on his parents' farm until reaching the age of 19 years, and then went to St. Louis, Mo., and from there to San Antonio, Tex., where he spent a year and a half, in 1879 and 1880, driving a stage between San Antonio and El Paso. After that he went to Ogalalla, Neb., where he was engaged to drive a herd of cattle to Dodge City, Kan. This herd consisted of 4,500 head, and the trip took three months. Mr. Gillooly then came up the river to Winona, and from there to Elgin, Wabasha County, this being in the spring of 1881. In the following spring he went to South Dakota and took land on which he farmed for 14 years, when he sold out. In the meanwhile he had married, and now, in 1897, with the two older children, he drove overland to Wabasha County and rented the Curtis Bryant farm, belonging to his wife's parents, and situated close to Elgin Village, and joined his wife who had preceded him. The farm contained 80 acres, and there he and his family remained for four years. After that he spent four years in Rochester, Olmsted County. In 1908, with his family, he went to Canada and took land on which he resided a year and a half. Then he sold it and returned to Elgin and again resumed agriculture on the Bryant farm, which has since been his home. He has made valuable improvements on the place, having remodeled the residence, and put in waterworks, electric lights and cement walks. As the land is one of the most desirable building sites in the vicinity of the village, he has laid out a part of it in building lots. Mr. Gillooly is a man possessing much force of character, coupled with enterprise, a desirable addition to any community, and while living in South Dakota served on the village council of Andover. He was married October 10, 1884, at Aberdeen, S. D., to Nellie M. Bryant, who was born in Elgin, Minn., daughter of Curtis and Mary C. (Colby) Bryant. Five children are the issue of this marriage: Mary, born June 19, 1885, married Robert N. French, formerly of Chicago, general sales manager of the Union Match Co., but now of Minneapolis; Walter, born November 8, 1887, who married Pearl Bringgold of West Concord, Minn., and is now with the Western Construction Co. in Idaho; Howard, born March 18, 1892, who served in the world war from June 24, 1918, to November 9, 1919, spent 14 months in France, as did also Lloyd, and is now living at home; Lloyd, born July 3, 1895, who was in the 23d Engineers in the world war, from November 21, 1917, to June 24, 1919; and Leonard, born December 14, 1900. Mr. Gillooly and his family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Nicholas J. Majerus**, a Minnesota pioneer and Civil War and Indian War veteran, residing in Mazeppa, was born in Luxembourg, September 29, 1839, son of John and Anna Majerus. The parents, who were natives of Holland, came to the United States in 1847, locating in the town of Sheldon, Wyoming County, N. Y., where until 1865 they were engaged in farming. They then came to Wabasha County, Minn., buying 160 acres of land in Chester Township, on which tract stood a small house and a straw barn. There they made their home and in time developed the place into a good farm. Mrs. Anna Majerus died in 1880, and John Majerus in 1888. They had a family of six children, five sons and one daughter. Those living are Nicholas and John N., both residing in Mazeppa. The deceased are Carlos, Peter, Anna, and one who died in infancy. Nicholas J. Majerus was a boy of eight years when he arrived in New York



with his parents. He was reared on their farm in Wyoming County, that state, and remained there until 1860, when he was 21 years old, when he went to Michigan. In the fall of that year he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. After a short stay in Michigan, he came west to Minnesota, locating at Red Wing. This was in 1861, about the time of the breaking out of the Civil War. On August 16, 1862, Mr. Majerus enlisted in Company G, Seventh Minnesota Infantry, under Captain Williston. For fourteen months the regiment was employed in fighting the Indians, and saw some lively skirmishing, taking part in the actions at Birch Cooley and Wood Lake. In October, 1863, it joined the Army of the Tennessee, and was active in several hard fought battles, including those of Tupelo, Miss. (three days), Tallahatchie, Nashville and the Mobile Forts. It was also engaged in the pursuit of Price through Arkansas to Sedalia, Mo., besides taking part in many skirmishes. At the battle of Nashville Mr. Majerus was wounded, and on August 16, 1865, he received an honorable discharge at Ft. Snelling, Minn. While in the army he had bought 80 acres of land in Belvidere, Goodhue County, but sold this on his discharge, and bought a quarter section in Chester, on which he lived four years. In 1873, after a residence of a year and a half in Lake City, he came to Mazeppa, and in the same year bought a building on the corner of First and Walnut streets, where he engaged in general mercantile business, including the sale of liquors. He carried on that business for a number of years, and became prosperous, acquiring a considerable amount of residence and other property, buying and selling real estate as he saw a good opportunity. He erected the first brick building in town, and at one time owned a good share of the village. About 1904 he retired, and has since led a life of ease and leisure, known by everybody and one of the popular citizens of the village. For fifty years Mr. Majerus has been a member of the Masonic order. A number of years ago he also joined the Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic, and is now commander of Post No. 150, G. A. R., a Post which death had reduced in membership to four individuals. He has always been a Republican in politics. Mr. Majerus was married, at Bellchester, November 3, 1869, to Anna K. Groff, who, like himself, was a native of Luxembourg, where her parents died when she was ten years old. She was 18 when she came to this country, settling in Goodhue County, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Majerus had four children: Clara, wife of William Smitzen, connected with the old National Bank, at Spokane, Wash., of which he is vice president; Mary, wife of Floyd Kingsley, a druggist of Mazeppa; Justine, residing at home; and Laura, wife of George Searles, a real estate man of Mazeppa. Mrs. Anna K. Majerus died January 1, 1912, and the household affairs are presided over by the daughter Justine.

**William Searles.** On the morning of Saturday, December 20, 1919, there passed from this life one of the best known and most highly respected pioneer settlers of Wabasha County—a man whose loss was deeply deplored by his family, friends and the entire community. William Searles was born in Barton, Cambridgeshire, England, parents were natives of the same county, where they were married. In 1853 they came to the United States, and in 1856 took a claim in Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn. After remaining there a few years they removed to Kandiyohi County, this state. In 1877 they returned to the home of their son William, where they remained until their death, that of Mrs. Elizabeth Searles in 1878 and Joseph Searles in 1893. They were the parents of seven children: William, Stephen, Mary, Martha, Eliza, Joseph and Elizabeth. William Searles spent the first 22 years of his life in his native land. There he was married, October 21, 1852, to Mary Ann Smith, who was born in Melbourne, Cambridgeshire, England, May 5, 1826. He and his wife, in company with his brother Stephen, set sail for America, landing at New York, after ten or twelve weeks on the water, January 3, 1853. Mr. Searles went first to Troy, N. Y., where he worked in the railroad shops until 1854, then came to Illinois, working in the Illinois Central railroad shops at Amboy



until 1856, when he decided to come to Minnesota, to which territory a considerable stream of emigration had already set in. On his arrival here he preempted the farm in Haverhill Township, Olmsted County, now known as the Charles Wolfgram place. Four years later he exchanged it for the farm in Farmington Township, the same county, on which he lived for 40 years, and which he still owned at the time of his death. After settling on the latter farm he became an extensive land owner, and added to the original area of 80 acres until he was the owner of a full section of land. In 1878 he raised as high as 11,000 bushels of grain, of which about two-thirds was wheat. During Mr. Searles' early career as a farmer he was badly handicapped by rheumatism and suffered other trying experiences. In 1883, while driving his team to Rochester, he was overtaken by the cyclone which caused such havoc in this vicinity, and one of his horses was killed, he, himself, being thrown from the wagon. In spite of all drawbacks, however, he successfully pursued his vocation until 1901, when he retired and purchased a residence property in the Village of Elgin, which was his home subsequently until his death. During his active career he took a great interest in all public affairs, and served the community as a member of the town board and as a member of the school board for a number of years. He was also interested in the Farmers Elevator Company and the Creamery Association. He was a member of the Odd Fellows' fraternity, which he joined at Troy, N. Y., and had been a member of the local Masonic lodge since October 1, 1887, serving as one of its earliest masters. He also held the Royal Arch and Knights Templar degrees, being affiliated with the Commandery at Rochester. Mr. Searles enjoyed good health for one of his years until the day previous to his death, when he suffered a slight stroke. From this he soon rallied, but at supper time another attack came on and he remained unconscious until his death at 5:30 a. m., on Saturday. He had been a widower for nearly 30 years, his wife having passed away on April 8, 1890. They were the parents of six children: William S., DeWane, Arthur, Anna M., Sidney S. and Helen B., of whom the following is a brief record: William S., born December 15, 1853, died June 30, 1896. DeWane, born April 22, 1858, is now postmaster at Elgin, Minn., and is given a separate mention in this volume. Arthur, born September 17, 1860, is now a resident of Farmington Township, Olmsted County, Minn. Anna M., born July 26, 1863, for some time followed the occupation of teaching, but in later years, with her sister Helen, looked after the welfare of the home and together they cared for their father in his declining years. She is associate matron of Vesper Chapter, No. 196, O. E. S. Sidney S., born February 14, 1866, is now living retired at Rochester, Minn. Helen B., born January 26, 1876, is a graduate of the Winona State Normal School, and for 7 years was a very successful teacher. She also filled the position of superintendent of public schools, both at Eyota and at Byron, Minn., and was a teacher of the piano for several years. She is a member of Vesper Chapter, No. 196, O. E. S., serving as worthy matron in 1916, and for the year 1918 was chairman of the Elgin branch of the Red Cross.

De Wane Searles, postmaster at Elgin, of which place for a number of years he has been a prominent business man, was born in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, Minn., April 22, 1858, son of William and Mary Ann (Smith) Searles. He was educated in the district schools of his neighborhood and in the Elgin public school, and resided on his parents' farm until the winter of 1885. He then came to Elgin and for one year was in the employ of Richardson Bros., merchants. On September 12, 1886, he bought a half interest in the hardware business from E. O. Ordway, becoming a partner with J. W. Bryant under the firm name of Searles & Bryant. At the end of one year Mr. Bryant sold his interests to T. W. Mathieson and the style of the concern was changed to Searles & Mathieson. As such it remained for two years, and then Mr. Searles became sole owner of the business, which he conducted alone for three years. At the end of that time he sold a half interest to J. D. Siem,











Jr., who was his partner until 1907. During the next eight years Mr. Searles was expert and salesman for the International Harvester Co., with headquarters at Elgin. In 1915 he was appointed by President Wilson as postmaster of Elgin, the office then being of the fourth class. In 1916 he was appointed for a period of four years and the post office was raised to a third class office. In this position he is still serving, having proved a very popular official. For several years Mr. Searles was a member of the village council, for two terms acting as president. He also served several years as village treasurer, and in every position has shown himself a capable man of business with a keen eye to the public interest. He is a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., and of the Scottish Rite lodge at Winona. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Searles was married January, 1884, to Susan Selina Richardson, who was born in Elgin Township, March 11, 1862, and who died July 20, 1916. After her student days she followed teaching for three years, two years in Viola and one in Elgin Village, teaching the primary department the first year after the present school building was erected, after the cyclone in 1883. From young womanhood she had taken an active interest in all the affairs of the town, social and public welfare alike. In religious belief she was a Universalist, although she never united with any church, as there was no Universalist organization here. She was an active worker in the M. E. Ladies' Aid and the Ladies' Cemetery Association. A charter member of the order of the Eastern Star, she held the highest office to which her associates could elect her, that of Worthy Matron, in 1912, and always had been an active member. She had always been interested in the progress of the schools, and even during her last illness she followed the agitation of a bond issue for a new school building with great interest and was highly elated at the result. While she had been in poor health for at least ten years before her death, she had until July 4, two weeks before her death, been able to be about and attend to her household duties. A severe cold, which developed into pneumonia, led to the fatal termination, and she passed away deeply mourned by her family and a wide circle of friends.

**Emil J. Sell**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Elgin Township, was born March 25, 1872, in the town of Hillsdale, Winona County, son of August and Albertina (Gaulke) Sell. The father was a native of Prussia, Germany, born January 5, 1836. He came to America in 1867, locating first in Michigan, in which state he worked for two years in saw mills. Then coming to Hillsdale Township, Winona County, Minn., he bought 160 acres in section 21, and was there engaged in farming until his death, June 11, 1906. His wife, who, like himself, was a native of Germany, died May 19, 1900. Emil J. Sell was educated in the district schools of Hillsdale Township, Winona County. He worked on his father's farm there until 1894, in which year he bought the farm, and also another, of 80 acres, in section 21, making 240 acres in all. His improvements on the place included the erection of two basement barns and other outbuildings, and he carried on a successful business in general farming and stock raising. In 1909 he sold his fine place and bought 160 acres in sections 26 and 35, Elgin Township. In 1916 he bought 80 acres in section 35, and in 1917, 80 acres in section 34, making a total of 320 acres. He also erected a new set of buildings, in 1909 building a house and barn, in 1910 a granary, and in 1916 another barn. He is operating the entire farm, breeding Shorthorn cattle and Duroc swine, with full-blooded sires at the head of his herds. Mr. Sell is president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Elgin, and also president and manager of the Elgin Live Stock Shipping Association. He is one of the strong business factors in this community and has for years exercised a beneficial influence on the progress and development of Elgin Village and township. While living in Winona County, he was one of the organizers and builders of the Stockton creamery, and served as its president. He also served as chairman of the board of supervisors of Hillsdale Township, and served as justice of the peace. On February 12, 1895, Mr. Sell was united



in marriage with Augusta Hanson. He and his wife are the parents of six children, who were born as follows: Albertina A., December 14, 1895; Emil A., August 12, 1897; August J., April 6, 1900; Ida A., August 17, 1903; Bertha L., September 17, 1906; and Emma A., December 2, 1911, all of whom are living at home. The family are affiliated with the German Lutheran church.

**Michael O. Kemp**, an early merchant of Lake City, and founder of the general mercantile firm now known as Kemp & Roschen, was born in Tiffin, Ohio, October 18, 1850, son of Frank and Clara (Krell) Kemp, natives of Belgium. Frank Kemp died when his son was a small boy, and the widow later married John B. Connelly, who brought her west, leaving young Michael O. living with friends to attend school. Michael O. came west at the age of 13 and received his first mercantile experience while clerking in stores in Galena, Ill., and Bellevue, Iowa. Subsequently, with his mother and stepfather, he came to Brownsville, in Houston County, this state, where he likewise secured employment in a general store. It was in 1869 that he came to this county, and started work in a store at Wabasha. From there he came to Lake City as a clerk in the store owned by J. C. Stout, located at the corner of Center and Washington Streets, on the present site of the Dwelle Telephone Exchange. In 1877 the firm of Kemp & Schmidt, general merchants, was formed, consisting of the subject of this sketch, and Henry Schmidt, who had previously been conducting a bakery. The young men were on their way to prosperity and success, when their store was wiped out by the great fire of 1882, entailing a loss over insurance of some \$2,800. But in a few days the firm opened in temporary quarters, and in the fall moved to Center street, into the space now occupied by the grocery department of Kemp & Roschen. The business continued to grow in size and importance. In 1885, Mr. Kemp bought out the Schmidt interests and became sole owner. In 1890 he bought the building. In 1898 his son, Francis H., became an active clerk for his father. In 1902 Mr. Kemp retired from some of the more strenuous responsibilities of the business. At that time John Roschen, a former clerk, was taken into the business and the firm name became Kemp, Roschen & Co. In 1914 Michael O. Kemp withdrew and the firm assumed its present name of Kemp & Roschen. Since then Mr. Kemp has resided quietly at his pleasant home at 504 South High street, not actively participating in business, but still giving his friends the benefit of his experience and advice. Busy though he has been with his business affairs, he has found time for considerable useful public service. An active participant in municipal life, he has been city clerk four years, city treasurer eight years, alderman six years, and mayor for three years. A Democrat in politics, he has been prominent in the councils of that party, especially in the old convention and primary days. His religious affiliation is with the St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, of which he is now treasurer. Mr. Kemp was married in 1875 to Anna Hosch, of Dubuque, Iowa, who died in 1887. She was the mother of three children: Francis H., born June 3, 1876, a Lake City merchant; Clara, born September 21, 1878, and died September 5, 1893; and John, born December 15, 1880, and died February 28, 1918. Mr. Kemp was married May 1, 1889, to Elizabeth Krell, a girlhood playmate of Tiffin, Ohio. This union has been blessed with three children: Louis Otto, Mary Agnes and Corrine. Louis Otto was born June 4, 1894, passed through the graded and high schools of Lake City, and graduated in pharmacy from the Drew School of Pharmacy at Minneapolis, and is now engaged in the drug business at Springfield, Minn. He is a veteran of the World War. Mary Agnes was born August 15, 1897, passed through the graded and high schools of Lake City, and graduated from the Northwestern Conservatory of Music at Minneapolis. Corrine was born February 11, 1890, and died February 19, 1893. Irma Krell, who is also a member of the family, is the daughter of Mrs. Kemp by her marriage to John Krell. Miss Krell passed through the graded and high schools of Lake City and graduated from the Winona State Normal School,









MR. AND MRS. BAKER HARRISON.



and before her marriage was a successful teacher. She is now the wife of William H. McGraw, and resides at Bismarck, where Mr. McGraw is employed by the Highway Commissioners as civil engineer.

**Francis H. Kemp**, a prosperous business man of Lake City, senior member of the firm of Kemp & Roschen, general merchants of Lake City, was born in the city where he still lives, June 3, 1876, son of Michael H. and Anna (Hosch) Kemp. He passed through the graded schools of Lake City and graduated from the Lake City high school in 1894. As a boy he helped in his father's store during his spare moments and during vacation time, and upon graduation he became associated with his father as clerk, and in 1902 at the reorganization of the firm he became senior partner in the company of Kemp, Roschen & Co., which since 1914 has been Kemp & Roschen. The company does a large business, and handles dry goods, men's and women's furnishings, groceries, crockery, flour, produce and provisions. In addition to building up a successful business, Mr. Kemp has been active in civic, fraternal and social affairs. In politics he is an independent Democrat. Since 1907 he has been clerk of the Lake City Board of Education, and in this capacity has done most efficient work. When the Knights of Columbus were organized at Wabasha he became a charter member, and later he helped to organize the Lake City Council, of which he is now the Grand Knight. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Red Men at Lake City. Mr. Kemp was married January 26, 1905, to Esther Walch, who was born in Detroit, Mich., March 25, 1880, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret Walch of that city. This union has been blessed with three children: Paul G., born March 11, 1907; William J., born February 9, 1912; and Margaret E., born January 26, 1916. The family home is a pleasant residence at 217 South Oak street. Mr. Kemp and his family are members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church.

**Baker Harrison**, a former resident of Lake Township, where for a number of years he was profitably engaged in agricultural pursuits, was a pioneer settler in Minnesota. He was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., September 4, 1841, son of Stillwell and Myra Harrison, the parents being of old Kentucky stock. With them, he came to Minnesota in 1854, locating at Central Point, Goodhue County, where his father conducted a hotel. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the Civil War, in Company G, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, and was in the army three years. Returning to this region at the close of his military service, he took a homestead at Wells Creek, near Frontenac, Goodhue County. To that farm he brought his bride, being married July 4, 1871, to Mary, daughter of Tillinghast and Laura Merrill, of Lake Township. There they lived three years, and then Mr. Harrison sold out, and bought the farm of his wife's parents, in section 6, Lake Township, which he conducted for a number of years, dying there on June 23, 1891, when in his 52nd year. His experience in the army had undermined his health, for he was never very strong afterwards. His wife, who was born in Otsego County, New York, February 12, 1851, came to this section with her parents when about four years old. She is still living, and a woman of bright intellectual faculties, though now has almost lost her sight. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison had two children: Charles B., born October 7, 1875, now residing in section 6, Lake Township; and Laura, born June 9, 1872, who died in infancy.

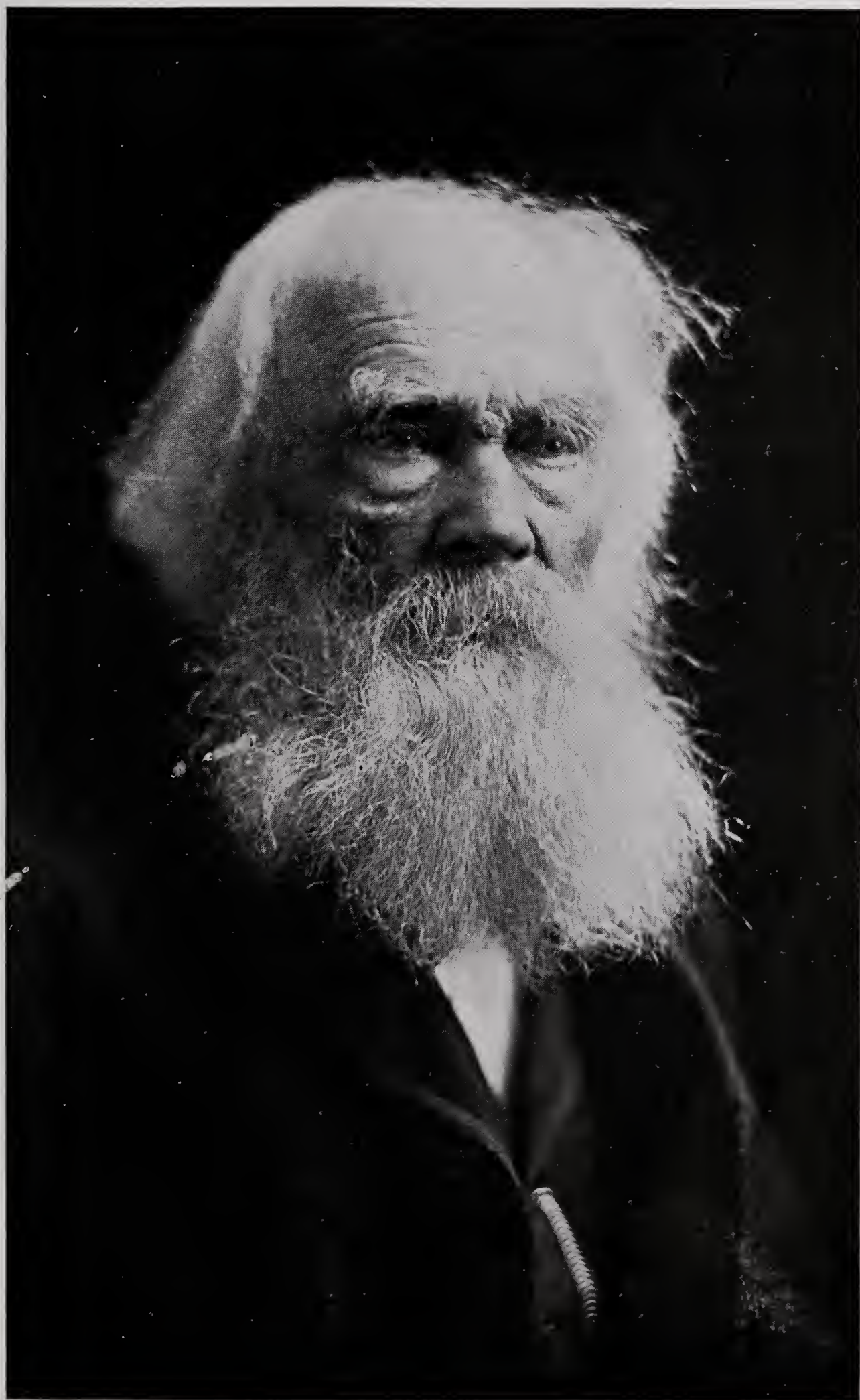
**Charles B. Harrison**, a prominent farmer of Lake Township, residing in section 6, was born in this township October 7, 1875, son of Baker and Mary (Merrill) Harrison. He was trained to agricultural pursuits. When starting in for himself he started on his father's farm, which is his inheritance. At the time it came into his possession it contained 80 acres, but he has increased its area to 120 by the purchase of adjoining land. It is well provided with buildings, the residence being a comfortable frame house. He has built a barn 30 by 68 feet, with a full basement of eight feet for cattle, and a lean-to 16 by 28 for horses, the barn being fitted up with steel stanchions and a Sharp-



less milking-machine, and with running water in every stall. He has also erected a silo of 125 tons' capacity. Since 1902 Mr. Harrison has devoted his chief attention to dairying, milking from 25 to 30 Guernsey grade cows. He also breeds Guernsey cattle, and does enough general farming to furnish food for his animals, feeding to them everything that he raises on the farm, except what he and his family use. In this line of business he has achieved good results, and is numbered among the prosperous citizens of his township. He is a stockholder in the Lake City Co-operative Creamery and is now its president. Mr. Harrison is a man of good mechanical ability and erected all his own buildings. Politically he is a Republican and has served as school director. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. It was on December 23, 1899, that he assumed the responsibilities of domestic life, being united in marriage with Minnie, daughter of Louis and Sabra Burg, of Mt. Pleasant Township, who came to Wabasha County in the early sixties. Of this union two children have been born: Claude, December 17, 1902, who is a student in the Lake City high school, and Ruth, born May 31, 1906, who is attending school. Mrs. Charles B. Harrison, who was born May 12, 1875, acquired her education in the Lake City high school and the high school at Colfax, Wash.

**Samuel Peters**, a veteran ship builder, and one of the best known and most respected citizens of Wabasha city, was born on Cape Breton Island, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence river, Canada, January 31, 1829, son of Samuel and Mary (Anderson) Peters. He was reared on his parents' farm, in his boyhood attending the common school, after which his educational period, so far as schools were concerned, came to an end. After remaining at home until the age of 21, he went to East Boston, Mass., where he began to learn the trade of ship building, working there three years. In 1853 he returned to his native place, and soon after built his first boat, a sailing vessel, at Sidney, Nova Scotia. For a brief period after that he was engaged in bridge work, but soon returned to ship building. Late in the fifties he returned to Massachusetts, but when the Crimean war broke out in 1859, he returned to Nova Scotia, where he followed his trade. At the close of the war he went to Massachusetts, where he followed his trade both at Boston and Cape Cod, for a short period, then again returned to Sidney, Nova Scotia, and there followed the ship building business until 1880; coming that year to the United States, he located in Minnesota and entered the employ of the Batchelor Boat Building Co. at Stillwater. Later he went to Montana, where he superintended the building of the "Crescent," a freight and passenger steamer for service on Flathead Lake and River. This done, he returned to Stillwater, re-entering the employ of the Batchelor company. He was a second time called to Montana, on this occasion to build a smaller vessel for the Flathead Lake and Columbia River service. His work in Montana occupied altogether about three years. After his second return to Stillwater, he remained there until 1893, in which year he came to Wabasha and leased the Wabasha boat yard. This he purchased in the spring of 1894 and has since operated it, his son, William, having been for some years associated with him. Among the many boats he has built may be mentioned especially the "Frontenac," the "Sam Peters," the "Orion," the "Ed Douglass," the "Phil Shackel," the "Gazelle," the "Virginia," the "Harriet," the "Keokuk," the "Blackhawk" and "The Crescent," and he has also done much repairing and rebuilding. Several of the boats he built he operated for a season or more. Mr. Peters has always been a hard worker and continued actively engaged until the summer of 1919. A Republican in politics, while in Stillwater he served as assessor for two terms. In Wabasha he served one term as alderman, and was elected for a second term, but resigned. He has always been a strong advocate of temperance and in favor of the prohibition movement. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Peters was married February 18, 1866, to Anne Muggah, a native of Nova Scotia, and of Scotch descent, who





SAMUEL PETERS







was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church. She died October 2, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Peters were the parents of four children: Isabella, George, William and Emma. Both Isabella and George are now deceased. William, who was born in Nova Scotia, November 10, 1872, has been associated with his father since beginning industrial life. He is a practical ship builder, and now manager of the Wabasha yard. He is unmarried. Emma, who is also unmarried, was graduated from the Winona Normal School and subsequently taught school in Grand Forks, N. D., Spring Grove, Minn., and Wabasha, Minn. She is now engaged in keeping house for her father and brother. Mr. Peters comes of a sturdy line of Scotch-Irish ancestors, and is a remarkably well preserved man for his age. His wife was the daughter of an old sea captain, and in her family and among her relatives were no less than 42 masters of sea-going boats.

**Leroy A. Goodrich**, editor of the Lake City Graphic Republican, was born in Durand, Pepin County, Wis., April 8, 1875, son of Philo W. and Mary A. (Scott) Goodrich. Philo W. Goodrich, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Chautauqua County, New York, and was 13 years of age when he came with his parents to Durand, Wis., where he has resided for 63 years. He was reared on their farm, but subsequently engaged in mercantile business, in which he has been very successful. He is now engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Durand. His wife, Mary A. Scott Goodrich, was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1843, and died in November, 1919. Leroy A. Goodrich was educated, so far as the usual branches of study are concerned, in the graded and high school of Durand. For several years thereafter he taught country school, and then took a business course at Red Wing. He began his newspaper experience as one of the proprietors and publishers of the Entering Wedge, of Durand, and was thus engaged for twelve years, during which time he gained a thorough insight into journalistic methods as practiced in small towns and cities. In 1907 he purchased the Lake City Graphic Sentinel, which he conducted successfully. In 1910 the Lake City Printing Co. was organized, Mr. Goodrich becoming vice president of the concern. A consolidation of the "Graphic Sentinel" was then made with the Lake City Republican, and the paper has since been issued as the Lake City Graphic-Republican, with Mr. Goodrich as editor and manager. The paper was issued bi-weekly until 1918 and has a circulation of nearly 2,000. In connection with it a first-class job printing office is maintained. Mr. Goodrich has been a hard worker, and his efforts have been well directed and have accomplished results. He enjoys a wide personal popularity due to the respect inspired by his ability and to his cheerful and genial disposition. Mr. Goodrich was married in June, 1901, to Maude J., daughter of Wesley W. Gue, of Lake City. Her parents were early settlers in Pepin County, Wis., coming from New York state. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich: Leroy A., Jr., May 16, 1905; and Mary Evelyn, who is now deceased. Mr. Goodrich belongs to the Lake City Commandery K. T., No. 6, to the Odd Fellows' lodge, and other fraternal orders in Lake City.

**Frank H. Ferguson**, an enterprising farmer of Elgin Township, who is a prominent town official, was born in Elgin Township December 30, 1867, son of Daniel F. and Emma (Dodge) Ferguson. The father was a native of New York state, where he was educated. In 1856 he came west to Illinois, where for three years he remained engaged in farming. In 1859 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and from that time until 1898 he was engaged in farming in Elgin Township. Then retiring, he moved to Elgin Village, remaining there until the death of his wife on February 18, 1906. The remainder of his life was spent at the home of his son, Frank H., where he died September 16, 1911. His marriage to Emma Dodge took place November 27, 1855. They had two children: Frank H. and Roy A., the latter of whom is now living in the state of Montana. Frank H. Ferguson was educated in the Elgin Village school. He



worked with his father until 1895, in which year he became manager, and afterwards owner, of his present farm of 160 acres in sections 17 and 22, Elgin Township, on which he is successfully carrying on general farming, including stock raising and dairying. His equipment includes a B. L. K. milking-machine, in addition to a full complement of the usual farm machinery. His herds of Guernsey cattle and Duroc swine have full-blooded sires at their head. He has made some valuable improvements on his place, having erected a basement barn 34 by 50 feet, a large cow barn, and other outbuildings. Mr. Ferguson served nine years on the Elgin Township school board, and since 1911 has held the office of town treasurer, the affairs of which he has administered to the satisfaction of the community. Fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star Chapter; also to the Modern Woodmen of America. He was married May 27, 1895, to Maude Dickerman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Dickerman, and of this union have been born eight children: Hazel E., July 4, 1896; Milva E., November 12, 1897; Herbert L., June 13, 1899; Elmer R., February 10, 1901; Mabel L., May 9, 1903; Neil C., September 14, 1906; Carol H., November 23, 1910; and Kenneth F., March 4, 1912. Hazel E. is now a student at Hamline University. Milva E. is the wife of Melvin Gilberts, of Rochester, Minn. Elmer R. died when nearly five years old, on January 27, 1905. Herbert L. and all the younger children are residing on the home farm. The Ferguson family is one of high standing in this community, where Mr. Ferguson is recognized as an enterprising and public spirited citizen.

**Frederick Betcher**, a well known and respected resident of Lake City, now retired, was born in Pommern, Germany, July 25, 1850, son of Ludwig and Dorothy Betcher, who were farmers. He attended school in his native land, but relinquished his studies at the age of 15 to work on a large farm, and was subsequently employed as a farm hand there until reaching the age of 22. On October 29, 1872, inspired by a letter received from a brother who had previously settled in the United States, he, himself, resolved to seek his fortune in this country, set out and in due time was landed among a crowd of immigrants at Castle Garden, New York. Thence he came directly to Goodhue County, Minn., where his brother, William, had arrived in 1870. With little trouble he found work as a farm hand, being employed largely in grubbing, fencing and teaming, and at the end of 13 months found himself in possession of \$200—not a very large sum for that much work, but in those days farm labor was cheap, as also were farm products. For a number of years Mr. Betcher continued working for others, taking care not to squander his money, and at last felt himself able to establish a home and work on his own account and more directly for his own benefit. To secure the home a wife was necessary, and his affections were already engaged to Mary Ehlers, of Lake City, daughter of Martin and Elaine (Moult) Ehlers. She was born in Germany, December 24, 1855, and was 28 years old when she came to the United States. His marriage with her took place August 1, 1884, and they began housekeeping on the Berchtol farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, where they remained five years. Their next home was on the Petsinger farm in the same township, where three years were spent. From there they moved to the Al Maybe farm in that township, which proved a more permanent location, as they remained there 14 years. Mr. Betcher then bought the Reade farm in sections 21 and 22, Lake Township. This was an old improved place of 260 acres, with 180 acres under the plow, and situated four miles south of Lake City. Mr. Betcher increased the tilled area to 200 acres, rebuilt the house, making it a good frame structure of eight rooms, rebuilt the barn, and added other buildings. The barn measures 38 by 70 by 16 feet, having a full basement, and among the other buildings, mostly the product of Mr. Betcher's enterprise, are a machine shed 24 by 40 by 10, a granary 24 by 40 by 10, a double corn crib 18 by 24 by 10, a stone poultry house 18 by 30, and a steel windmill. There he carried on gen-



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HUGH R. SMITH



eral farming with profitable results until 1915, when he rented the farm to his son, Edward L., and retired, buying a residence in Lake City, which he and his wife now occupy. During his active career he served as school director and for some years was treasurer of Lake Township. In politics he is a Republican, while his religious affiliations are with St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City. Mr. and Mrs. Betcher are the parents of five children: Catherine, born March 14, 1886, now Mrs. George Von Helmst, of Lake City; Margaret, born June 14, 1889, wife of Reinhardt Kuyath, a farmer of Lake Township; Anna, born April 27, 1890, wife of Charles Miller, residing near Zumbro Falls, this county; Edward, born March 6, 1893, who is on the home farm; and Emma, born February 15, 1897, who is the wife of George Peters, manager of Dr. Shores' stock farm in Goodhue County.

**Edward L. Betcher**, one of the best known among the younger farmers of Lake Township, was born March 6, 1893, in Mt. Pleasant Township, son of Frederick and Mary (Ehlers) Betcher. He was reared on his parents' farm, and in his boyhood attended district school up to the age of 14 years. On his parents' retirement in 1915, and removal to Lake City, they left the farm in his hands, and he is the owner of the stock and operating equipment. The stock includes from 30 to 40 head of a good grade of Shorthorn cattle, and a herd of 20 to 30 Chester-White swine, not to mention an adequate number of good work horses; while in addition to the usual farm machinery, all of modern type, Mr. Betcher owns a five-passenger Chevrolet car. Two hundred acres of the total farm area of 260 are under cultivation. Enterprising and industrious, Mr. Betcher is doing a good business with the goal of a comfortable fortune not far in the distance. For some years he has served as treasurer of School District No. 6, Lake Township. On June 10, 1914, Mr. Betcher was married at Lake City to Olive Revling, daughter of Olaf and Charlotte Revling, of Pope County, Minn., and who was born at Starbuck, that county, January 15, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Betcher have two children: Dorothy L., born December 10, 1915, and Donald F., born September 12, 1918. He and his wife are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City.

**Hugh R. Smith**, journalist, editor and publisher of the Wabasha Standard, with headquarters at Wabasha, was born in Kossuth County, Iowa, March 1, 1869, son of George and Jean (Ross) Smith. He received his first experience in journalism and printing while living with his brother, William F., at Webster City, Iowa. At the age of 16 he entered the employ of Ingham & Warren, of Algona, and remained with them as a printer for many years. After several other employments he became foreman of the jobbing department of the West Publishing Co. at St. Paul in 1905. In 1908 he came to Wabasha County and has since been an important factor in its public affairs. Upon his arrival in the county he established the Zumbro Falls Enterprise, which soon attained deserved popularity in Wabasha, Goodhue and Olmsted Counties. In September, 1918, he purchased the Wabasha Standard, whose circulation and importance he has considerably increased. He still continued the Enterprise until March, 1919, when he sold that paper to Fred J. Barton. Mr. Smith has found relaxation from his strenuous daily toil in the charms of music. He is a director and performer of more than usual ability, and has taken a prominent place in the musical circles in the various towns to which his duties have called him. He is still a member of the St. Paul Association of Musicians. He is also a prominent Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge at Mazeppa, the Chapter and Commandery at Lake City, and the Osman Shrine at St. Paul, and is a member of their famous Shrine band, in which he plays the baritone. The family faith is that of the Congregational church. Mr. Smith was married at Luverne, Iowa, September 13, 1890, to Margaret Patton, daughter of Frank and Barbara (Ann) Patton, of Luverne, Ia. This union has been blessed with five children, Juno, Pearl, Maude, Rossie and Theodosia. Juno is the wife of C. E. Clafin, connected with the Western Union Telegraph Co. at Miles City, Mont. Maude



is the wife of E. A. York, of Wabasha, a traveling salesman for Griesel Brothers, wholesale grocers of Winona, Minn. George Smith, father of Hugh R. Smith, was born in Scotland, came to America in the fifties, and lived for a while in Sullivan County, N. Y. At the close of the Civil War he came to Kosuth County, Ia., with his sons, Alexander and George W., and took a homestead there. In the middle eighties he retired and moved to the City of Algona. He married Jean Ross, also a native of Scotland. He and his wife are both dead.

**Clinton DeWitt Wentworth**, a Minnesota pioneer, and for 22 years a resident of Plainview Township, Wabasha County, was born in the town of Kingsey, Canada East, July 25, 1836, son of Melzor and Judith (Blake) Wentworth. In 1855 he came to Minnesota and pre-empted a claim of 160 acres in the Town of Farmington, Olmsted County, the place being later known as Farm Hill. The land was wild, and his first house was a log shanty, in which for several years he led a bachelor's life; but in 1860, having made further improvements, he went to Canada, and was there married, February 7, to Jane Yale, who was born in Canada November 16, 1841, daughter of Theophilus and Lucinda (Williston) Yale. Returning to Minnesota with his bride, Mr. Wentworth resumed his labor on the farm, subsequently erecting a better house and developing more of his land. In 1874 he moved with his family to Plainview Township, Wabasha County, taking a homestead three and a half miles east of the village. The farm contained 160 acres and was partially improved. In time he cleared the rest of the land, erected new buildings, or remodeled the old ones, and built up a comfortable home. There at last death came to him on August 2, 1896. The call was sudden. On the previous day, Saturday, he had not complained of feeling ill, and had even attended to his usual duties on the farm. But about 2 o'clock on Sunday morning his wife was awakened by his unnatural breathing, and found herself unable to arouse him. The rest of the family and a few neighbors were hastily summoned, who arrived just in time to see him draw his few last breaths. He had been afflicted with heart trouble and bronchial troubles for several years and had intended to spend the coming winter in the southern states, but God disposed otherwise. His funeral services were held in the Congregational church, and were attended by all the members of his family who were able to be present, besides numerous friends. He was a man highly respected, and had served his town for a number of years as a member of the school board. To Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth eleven children were born, as follows: Ernest L., October 31, 1860; Elmer E., October 20, 1862; Clara E., November 27, 1864; Aretus M., April 26, 1867; Lucy G., July 20, 1869; Judson T., January 31, 1872; Bertie I., May 11, 1874; Eleanor J., October 8, 1876; Warren W., August 16, 1880; Walter R., September 21, 1883, and Clinton Y., October 14, 1887. Of these children the two eldest, Ernest L. and Elmer E., are now deceased, and merit special mention. Ernest Luman Wentworth, who was born on his parents' farm at Farm Hill, Olmsted County, on the date above mentioned, received his education in the public schools of that county, and at Darling's Business College at Rochester, where he was graduated in 1884. On February 22, the following year, he married Tena Yackel, of Lewiston, Minn., and soon afterward he took up his residence with his wife in Minneiska, where he conducted a clothing store, with a jewelry department in connection therewith. After 12 or 13 years in that place he moved to Claremont, where he established a jewelry business, which he conducted until 1902. He then removed to Kasson, where he engaged in the same business, being thus occupied until his declining health caused him to sell out his business several weeks before his death, which took place May 29, 1908. A man highly esteemed, his funeral services were largely attended, interment being made in the Kasson cemetery. Elmer Wentworth, who also was born in Olmsted County, resided on his parents' farm there until 12 years old, when he moved with the family to Plainview Township. After attending public school he took a course in the Rochester Business College. In March, 1885, he was married to Udora V.



Evarts, and moved with her to Mellette, S. D., where they resided on a farm until 1892, when they returned to Plainview. Here he continued to farm until 1896, when he purchased a beautiful farm home in Pleasant Grove, where the rest of his life was spent. In February, 1913, he suffered a severe stroke of paralysis, and for some time was confined to his bed. On Friday, June 27, he was taken suddenly ill, and was taken to Winona for an operation, from the effects of which, or from his disorder, he failed to rally, and his death finally occurred on Monday, June 30, 1913. As an honorable Christian man he was respected by all. Through hard work and frugality he had amassed a competence, and was about to prepare to enjoy his declining years in ease and comfort when thus called away. His remains were laid to rest in Greenwood cemetery. For eight years after the death of her husband, Clinton D. Wentworth, Mrs. Jane Wentworth continued to operate the home farm, with the assistance of her son, Judson T. She then bought a nice residence in the Village of Plainview, to which she removed and where she is now living in comfort and surrounded by agreeable friends and acquaintances. The farm is still conducted by her son, Judson T.

**Aretus M. Wentworth**, a prominent citizen of the Village of Plainview, whose active career has been spent chiefly in railroad work, was born at Pottsdam, Olmsted County, Minn., April 26, 1867, son of Clinton D. and Jane Wentworth. He was educated in the common schools and at Darling Business College, Rochester, where he was graduated in 1889. In 1884 he had come to Plainview, Wabasha County, and taken up his residence on a farm, but when equipped with a business education, he turned his attention to railroad work, beginning as operator with the Chicago & North Western road, at Plainview. After one year's service here, he became relief operator with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road, on the river division. Later he returned to the employ of the Chicago & North Western, working first at Chatfield, and then for two years at Canby. From there he went to Gary, S. D., where he remained until June 1, 1917, and during his residence there was mayor of Gary four years. He then returned to Plainview, where he has since been stationed. Mr. Wentworth is a man of strong personality, and good business ability, as shown by his election to the chief municipal office by the citizens of Gary. Of a companionable disposition, he has from time to time identified himself with various fraternal organizations, being a member of Illustrious Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Plainview; Unity Lodge, No. 18, I. O. O. F., of Gary, S. D., also of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of that state; and of Canton No. 1, of the same order; and Camp No. 2415, M. W. A., of Gary. He attends and helps to support the Congregational church. Mr. Wentworth was married, February 1, 1893, to Anna C. Bowman, of Minneiska, Minn., who died April 9, 1915, leaving no children. Mr. Wentworth married secondly, April 5, 1916, Erena Yale, who was born October 30, 1873, and who before her marriage was a professional nurse. Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth own a pleasant home in Plainview, and are people well known and respected. Politically Mr. Wentworth is a Republican. He served six years as chairman of the school board in Gary, S. D.

**Ernest G. Dettrich**, a Minnesota pioneer now residing in Watopa Township, was born in Germany, October 25, 1842, and came to America with his parents in 1854. The family located first in Milwaukee, Wis., where they resided until 1866, when they settled at Oak Ridge, Winona County, Minn. There Ernest G. Dettrich bought 80 acres of land, which he farmed until 1892. Then selling that farm, he bought one of 160 acres in sections 30 and 31, Watopa Township, Wabasha County, erected a set of buildings and fenced the farm, and was there engaged in agriculture until 1916. He then rented the farm to his son Ervin F., who purchased it in 1919, and is now the owner. Mr. Dettrich had an active and successful career, and for many years was a prominent citizen of Watopa Township. For a number of years he served on the school board of District 35. He was married, October 14, 1872, to Lucy Reish, daugh-



ter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Reish, who were natives of Switzerland. She died in 1917. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dettrich were: Edith, now Mrs. F. L. Bennett; William, who resides in Winona County; Charles, a physician of Omaha, Neb.; Minnie, wife of Byron Bennett; Ervin F., who bought and is operating the home farm; and Alonzo, who is a traveling salesman. Ervin F. Dettrich, who was born March 4, 1888, was married June 10, 1914, to Maggie Markus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Markus of Highland Township, Wabasha County. He and his wife have four children: Mildred, born February 12, 1916; Marcus E., born January 8, 1917; and Lorena T. and Maxine T. (twins), born February 20, 1918.

**Theodore Maas**, president of the Bank of Mazeppa, and also engaged in the lumber business in this village, was born in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, Minn., in 1863, son of William F. F. and Johanna (Ninmann) Maas. The parents were natives of Prussia, Germany. The father, a cabinet maker by trade, came to the United States at the age of 29 years, locating at Watertown, Wis., where he followed his trade, and was married. His wife had come to this country at the age of 14 years with her parents. William Maas now entered the employ of Knapp-Stout & Co., then a large and well known lumber firm, but after working for them a while came to Minnesota and took a pre-emption claim near Forest Mills. Not long after he traded his farm for property at Pine Island and went back to work for Knapp-Stout & Co. After being away for a time in their employ, he returned to Pine Island and traded his property there for a farm four miles southwest of Mazeppa, where he and his wife made their permanent home. William Maas died in 1892 and his wife in 1911. They had four children, three of whom are now living, namely, C. F. A., Theodore, and Sarah, the last mentioned being the wife of W. G. Kingsford, of St. Paul. Robert, the eldest, died in 1877. Theodore Maas was reared on his parents' farm, acquiring his education in the district school, and he subsequently continued on the farm until he came to Mazeppa in 1891 and began his business career as clerk in the general store of E. L. Ford & Co. In this position he remained for one year and while thus engaged kept his eyes open and on the lookout for a good business opportunity. At the end of a year he purchased the P. Robinson elevator, which he subsequently operated for 25 years, buying and selling grain, and conducting a prosperous business. In 1915 Mr. Maas opened a lumber yard at Mazeppa, which he still owns and operates, and in 1916 he sold the elevator to C. P. Engelhart. For nearly thirty years he has been one of the leading business men of the village. He has been a stockholder in and director of the Bank of Mazeppa since it was organized and for the past twenty years has served as its president. He has taken an active and beneficial part in local affairs, and his fellow citizens have been accustomed to count upon his aid and influence in the working out of plans for the public good. Mr. Maas was first married in 1892 to Mamie Newhouse, of Pine Island, Goodhue County, Minn., daughter of George H. and Marian (Tupper) Newhouse. The fruit of this marriage was two sons, Lloyd and Vern, the former being now a dentist in Mazeppa, and the latter engaged in railroad work. Both served in the recent war with Germany, enlisting voluntarily. Their service was confined to this country, Lloyd's being with the Dental Reserve Corps, and Vern's with the Second Engineers and later with the Eighth Mounted Engineers, covering a period of two years and four months. Mrs. Mamie Maas, the mother of these two sons, died in 1912, and Mr. Maas subsequently married Mrs. Anna C. (Evertz) Baustert, the widow of Henry Baustert, who by her first husband had two children, William G. and Marjory. The son, William G. Baustert, during the recent war, enlisted in the U. S. army as a member of the Second Engineers and served 21 months in France, being gassed at Belleau Wood. He is now attending the University of Minnesota. The daughter Marjory is residing at home.

**George William Kuhfuss**, farmer and musician, residing in section 20, West Albany Township, was born in this township, February 14, 1882, son of









MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. KUHFUSS, MR. AND MRS. GEORGE E. KUHFUSS, MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM SCHUMACHER



George and Augusta (Reinhardt) Kuhfuss. The family settlement was made here at an early date by his grandparents, who bought 160 acres of Wise Brothers, the land being little improved and with small buildings. In time the son George, the father of George William, succeeded to the property. He was a boy of fourteen when he came from Germany, and the rest of his life was spent here as a successful farmer. He also shared the marked family talent for music, attaining prominence as a composer. In Germany his father had been conductor of a military band of 65 pieces, besides composing pieces of merit, and the son George, so far as his opportunities permitted, followed in the paternal footsteps. In time he received the final summons and passed away, being survived by his wife Augusta, who was born in this country, and who is still living on the home farm. They were the parents of five children: Karl, a resident of West Albany Township; Gusta, now Mrs. Harry Schmidt, of Pepin Township; Herman, of West Albany Township; August, who is living on the home farm; and George William, the direct subject of this sketch. George William Kuhfuss was reared to manhood on his parents' farm, attending the common school to the age of 17 years. He remained at home until 1901, in which year he was married, November 21, to Emma E., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Schumacher, of Mt. Pleasant Township. She was born in Chester Township, this county, April 1, 1883. Since his marriage Mr. Kuhfuss has been engaged in operating his present farm of 91 acres in section 20, doing general farming. It is located ten miles south of Lake City, about six miles from Theilman and the same distance from Millville, the two latter places being Mr. Kuhfuss' principal markets. He has a fine set of buildings, and his farm is well stocked with high grade Holstein cattle and Duroc and Chester-White hogs. With a good modern operating equipment, he is making satisfactory financial progress, being also a stockholder in the Theilman opera house and the Farmers' elevator in Millville. Like his father and grandfather, he is also a musician, being a member of the Kuhfuss Orchestra, composed of his three brothers, his sister, and himself, which is well known throughout this part of the state. A Republican in politics, Mr. Kuhfuss has interested himself in public affairs. In 1914 he was elected county commissioner, and in 1918 was re-elected to succeed himself for another term of four years, and served six years as chairman of the school board of his district, manifesting good business ability and a helpful public spirit. He is a member of several fraternal orders, including Wapahasa Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha; the Elks' lodge at Red Wing, the Ancient Order of United Workmen at Lake City, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Red Men at Millville. He and his wife are affiliated religiously with the German M. E. church in West Albany Township.

**George E. Kuhfuss**, who was for many years a resident of West Albany Township, and well known throughout Wabasha County, as well as beyond its limits, as a talented musical composer, was born in Hanover, Germany, December 23, 1851, son of George and Lena (Redich) Kuhfuss. In 1866, when in his fifteenth year, he came with his parents to the United States, reaching West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in March. The latter part of the journey, from La Crosse, Wis., to their destination, was made by stage, there being then no railroad. In section 21, West Albany Township, George Kuhfuss, the father, bought a farm of Wise brothers, on which stood a good new house. A small part of the land had also been improved. For over twenty years Mr. Kuhfuss toiled on the farm, making valuable improvements, though the loss of his wife, who died December 15, 1880, depressed his spirits to some extent, and perhaps took some of the energy out of his work. He survived her nearly seven years, finally passing away on November 30, 1887. They had eleven children, only one of whom was born in America. All are now deceased except a daughter, Mrs. Grabe, who lives in Minneapolis. George E. Kuhfuss in his boyhood attended school in District 37, West Albany Township. He ac-



quired a good agricultural training in his youth, and his life was spent on the home farm, after he settled on it with his parents in 1866. Though he was a good practical farmer, it was as a musician and composer that he was best known throughout the county. In that line of activity he gave free rein to a natural talent, cultivated by study, and perhaps derived through inheritance, as his father was also a talented musician, and while living in Germany was the leader of a military band of 65 pieces. Four of Mr. Kuhfuss' sons and a daughter now constitute the Kuhfuss Orchestra, one of the best known and most popular musical organizations. George E. Kuhfuss was married December 4, 1877, to Augusta Reinhardt, who was born at Columbus, Wis., May 17, 1858, daughter of William and Catherine Reinhardt. Her parents removed with their children to Lake City when she was eleven years old. They both died in Lake City, the father at the age of 84 years, on April 31, 1916, and the mother at the age of 74, on February 20, 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Kuhfuss nine children were born: Lena, on November 19, 1878; Augusta, May 6, 1880; George W., February 14, 1882; Lillian and William (twins), May 18, 1885; Charles, December 8, 1890; Augusta (second), August 24, 1893; Herman, March 24, 1895; and August, September 30, 1901. Four of the children are deceased, namely: Lena, who died August 27, 1879; Augusta (first), on April 27, 1881; Lillian, who died in infancy, and William, who died November 5, 1897. Charles is living in West Albany Township, as also is Herman. Augusta, the second of the name, is now Mrs. Harry Schmidt, of Pepin Township, Wabasha County. August is residing on the home farm with his mother. George E. Kuhfuss died November 3, 1911, deeply mourned by his family and regretted by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, among whom he was popular and respected. He was reared in the German Lutheran faith, and in early years worshipped with the West Albany congregation. In his latter years he became a member of the West Albany M. E. church. Politically he was a Republican, but was not active in politics beyond casting his vote. His widow, with a brother of hers and her youngest son, are residing on the old farm, and her other sons live but a short distance away.

**Mott M. Anderson**, postmaster at Hammond, and assistant cashier of the Hammond State Bank, was born July 20, 1874, on a farm in the town of Zumbro, son of Abram J. and Melvina (Mitchell) Anderson. The father was a native of New York State and the mother of Maine. Abram J. Anderson came to Minnesota at an early day, locating on a farm in Zumbro Township, where he followed agriculture until the fall of 1919. He then retired and took up his residence in Hammond, where he is now living. He was twice married, first to Angeline Dennison, by whom he had four children, Wesley, Alonzo D., who is Mayor of Hammond, Harriet and Clark. By his second marriage to Melvina Mitchell eight children were born, all of whom are living but Jessie S. The survivors are Linn, Ray A., Roy W., Percy F., Mott M., Blanche and Lura. Blanche is the wife of Walter Lord, a farmer in Zumbro Township. Lura is the wife of Peter Kruger, of Rochester, Minn. Harriet, who married Charles Devery, is now a widow, and resides on a farm in Zumbro Township. Mott W. Anderson was reared on the home farm in Zumbro Township, on which he remained until 25 years old. His education was begun in the district school, and he afterward attended schools at Rochester, Mazeppa and Madison, Minn., being a pupil for one winter at each of the two latter places. In the fall of 1898 he came to Hammond and opened a drug store with Dr. H. J. Button, to whom he sold his interest in the fall of the following year. For some time after that he was variously employed, partly in farming. For seven years he was engaged in railroad work, and for two winters was in the employ of the Western Elevator Company. On June 20, 1907, he was appointed postmaster at Hammond, which position he still holds. On September 1, 1919, Mr. Anderson entered the Hammond State Bank as bookkeeper, and since January 1, 1920, has been assistant cashier. He has served as village recorder of Hammond,



and has been clerk of the local lodge of Modern Woodmen of America for 14 years. Mr. Anderson was married, December 28, 1900, at Wabasha, Minn., to Elizabeth Burch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Burch, of Hyde Park, Wabasha County. The mother died when her daughter Elizabeth was a small child, but the father is still living. They were early settlers in this county, and were engaged in farming. Their children were John, Celia, Christ, Charles and Elizabeth. Mr. Anderson has two half brothers and four half sisters: Louis, Amelia, Margaret, Mary, Ella and Emil. Of the children comprising the entire family, all are living except John and Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Mott M. Anderson are the parents of two children: Mervil V. and Jessie, both residing at home. Mervil is now employed in the post office.

**Henry Wolf**, a veteran railroad man, now living retired in the village of Minneiska, was born in southern Germany, February 20, 1848, son of Matthias and Susannah Wolf. The parents came to the United States in 1857, landed at Milwaukee May 10, remained there for a short time, and then moved to a forty-acre farm in Richfield Township, twenty miles north of that city. He was reared to farm pursuits and for a time worked at that employment, but he early took up railroad work, and had barely attained his majority when he was made a section foreman. In January, 1871, he came to Wabasha County, and assisted in the construction of the original line of the railroad now known as the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. He remained in the employ of this company, with headquarters and home at Minneiska, until 1917, when after long and faithful service he was retired and placed on the company's pension roll. He has attained the respect of the community, and in his half century of life here has made a special study of the county's history and traditions, few being better informed on the events of the past fifty years than he. Mr. Wolf was married in June, 1869, to Sarah Brown, of Richfield, Wis., who was born in Ohio, daughter of Andrew and Mary Brown, and died June 19, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf were the parents of six children: Elizabeth, wife of John Peshon, of Minneiska; Annie keeps house for her father; Mary and Mary Josephine, who died young; Jacob, a clerk at the Minneiska railroad station; and Louisa, the wife of Charles H. Lorenz, of Minnieska.

**John Peshon**, the leading merchant of the village of Minneiska, proprietor of a largely patronized general store, is a native of Winona County, Minn., having been born in Mt. Vernon Township, December 18, 1871, son of Peter and Jane (Pfeiffer) Peshon. The parents, who were farmers, are both now deceased, the death of Mrs. Peter Peshon having occurred May 20, 1881. Their son John acquired his early education in the district school, and afterwards until the age of 18 years attended the Winona Business College. About 1890 he came to Minneiska and entered the employ of Brooks Bros., proprietors of an elevator here, and continued with them for five or six years. At the end of that time he bought a half interest in a store with Mrs. Margaret Agnes, widow of Michael Agnes, the building being located on the site which he now occupies, and the partnership was continued for two years. This store had an eventful history, as it was three times burned down, its first destruction by fire occurring while it was conducted by the Agnes family, January 6, 1880, previous to Mr. Peshon's entry into the firm, the second fire occurred on October 23, 1900. The third fire occurred August 2, 1906, and Mr. Peshon lost all his papers and business documents. Since the retirement of Mrs. Agnes from the firm, Mr. Peshon has conducted the business alone, or with the assistance of his wife, and has brought it into a flourishing condition. His principal stock consists of groceries, farm implements and machinery, flour and feed, but he also carries practically everything required in a supply house for a rural community. He is a stockholder and director in the Farmers State Bank of Minneiska. As a business man he is enterprising and far-sighted, and ranks among the leading merchants in Wabasha County, his trade extending a considerable distance into the surrounding country. Mr. Peshon was married

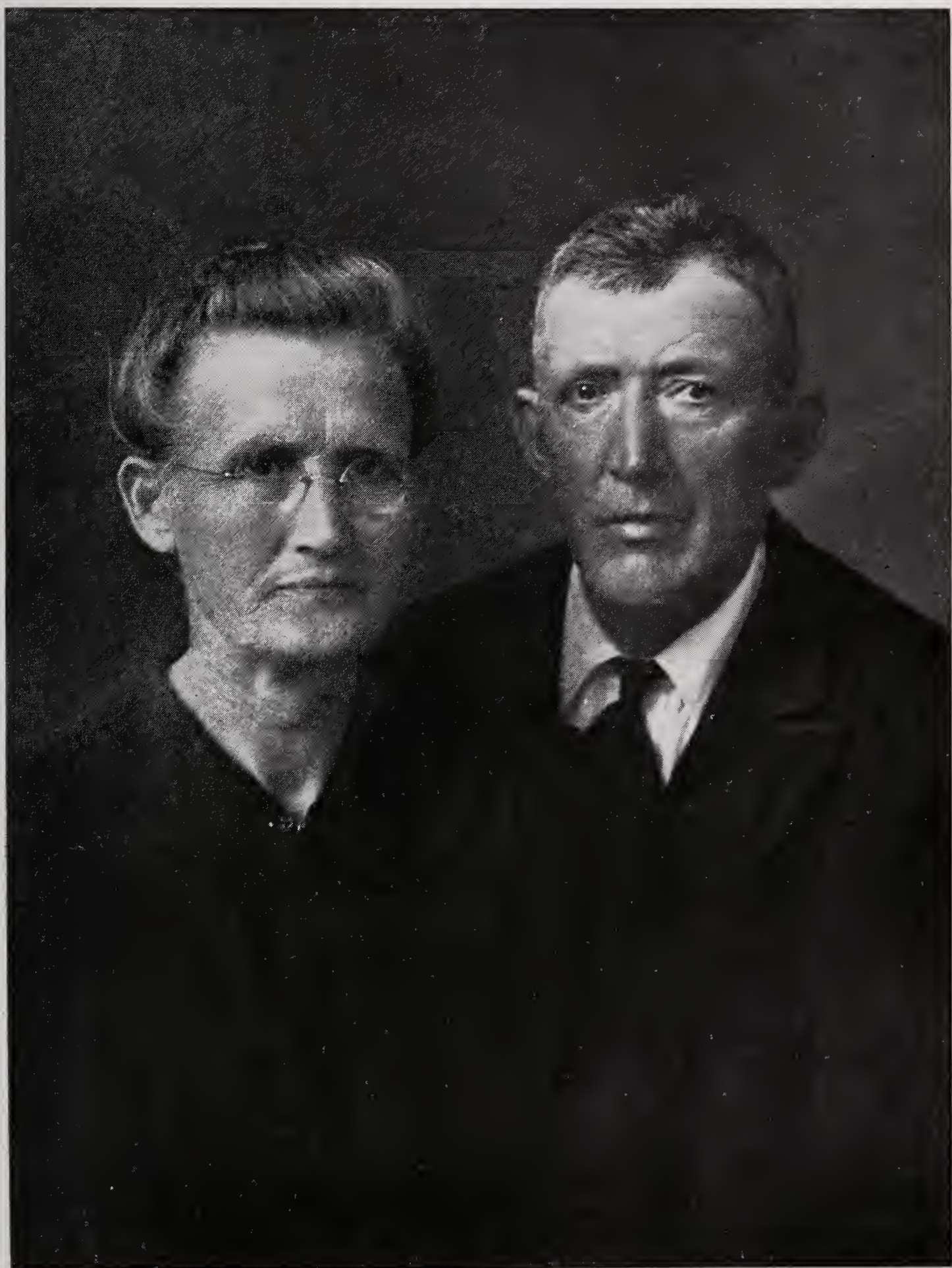


January 28, 1896, to Elizabeth M. Wolf, who was born in Richfield, Wis., daughter of Henry and Sarah (Brown) Wolf, but who was educated in Minneiska, to which place her parents came from Wisconsin in January, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Peshon are members of the Catholic church, the former also belonging to the Catholic Order of Foresters.

**Louis Phillip Pfeilsticker**, a prosperous business man of Wabasha, engaged in the grocery and implement business on Pembroke street, was born in Wabasha city, August 23, 1883, son of Louis and Caroline (Kirchner) Pfeilsticker. He was reared on his parents' farm on the outskirts of the city and attended the common school up to the age of 17 years. On November 1, 1904, he was married to Jessie Dunn, daughter of Frank and Eliza (Flemming) Dunn, of Wabasha, and who was born at Pepin, Wis., December 4, 1886. During that year and the following he was in the employ of the Big Jo Milling Co., of Wabasha, but in the spring of 1906 he went to St. Paul, where he became clerk in Michael Bros.' grocery. On March 28, 1907, Mr. Pfeilsticker opened a confectionery store on Pembroke street, Wabasha. This was a venture that proved highly successful, so much so that he soon had to move to larger quarters, which he found on the same street. After building up the business to good proportions, he traded it for 160 acres of improved land, without buildings, in Bottineau County, North Dakota, which property he still owns but leases out, there being now 100 acres of it under cultivation. Mr. Pfeilsticker then entered into the grocery and implement business, a few doors east of his former location on Pembroke street, and has since carried on a thriving business at this location. In 1915 he became local representative for Emerson & Prautingham, dealers in farm machinery, and has since become agent for other makes, and done a large business in this line throughout the surrounding country. His implement warehouse adjoins the confectionery store on the north. In politics he is a Republican, while his fraternal affiliations are with White Oak Camp, No. 2077, M. W. A. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church. To Mr. and Mrs. Pfeilsticker four children have been born: Eleanor H., January 24, 1907; Vera, January 9, 1909; Phillip, June 25, 1916; and Lee J., May 5, 1918.

**Louis Pfeilsticker**, a well-to-do citizen of Wabasha, who is operating a farm in the southeastern part of the city, was born at Read's Landing, Wabasha County, January 21, 1857, son of Louis and Theresa (Hummel) Pfeilsticker. The father came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, from Prussia in 1848. He was a baker by trade, and soon after arriving here became cook for loggers on the Chippewa river, which occupation he was engaged in till 1855 or 1856. He was then married at Read's Landing to Theresa Hummel, with whom he had become acquainted at that place, and in 1857 he started in the bakery and confectionery business at Wabasha, a business that he operated until his death at the comparatively early age of 45 years. His widow subsequently became the wife of Louis Hauswedell of this county. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Pfeilsticker were: Louis, Jr., the direct subject of this sketch; Louisa, born December 11, 1858, who married Peter Jacobs and died in 1915; Emma, born December 25, 1860, who is now Mrs. Peter Theisen, of Zumbro Falls, Wabasha County; Eda, born May 1, 1862, who died in 1864; August, born in August, 1866, who died at Wabasha in 1875; and Frank A., born in 1869, married Elizabeth Klas, and is living on a farm in Wabasha County. Louis Pfeilsticker after leaving school worked on his stepfather's farm until reaching the age of 20 years. In 1877 he entered the employ of W. S. McArthur, a cooper, in Wabasha, with whom he remained, however, but one winter, in the following year going to Brookings County, South Dakota, where he homesteaded 160 acres of wild land, 14 miles west of the present city of Brookings, though at that time there was but one house there. On that farm he remained for about three years, and then in 1881 returned to Wabasha and resumed the cooper's trade with W. S. McArthur, with whom he remained until 1883. On April 5 in the





MR. AND MRS. LOUIS PFEILSTICKER, SR.







latter year he was united in marriage with Caroline, daughter of John and Magdaline Kirchner, of Wabasha. She was born in Mormon Coolie, La Crosse County, Wis., December 10, 1862, and came with her parents to this county when two years of age. In the year of his marriage he bought a block in the southeast corner of Wabasha city, a tract of wild land, to which he subsequently added until he had 16 acres. On this he built a modern residence, a modern barn and other outbuildings, and has since resided on and operated the place. In 1888 Mr. Pfeilsticker exchanged his Brookings County farm for 160 acres lying just on the edge of Wabasha city, a piece of land on which there were no improvements, but today is a good farm. Previous to this, in 1884, Mr. Pfeilsticker had entered the employ of the Big Jo Milling Co. of Wabasha, with whom he remained as foreman until 1914. During this period of 30 years his farm was operated by his sons, but since the latter date he has operated it himself, having then severed his connection with the milling company. In about 1912 he purchased 52 acres of meadow land in Greenfield Township. He is a member of Waupahasa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M.; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; White Oak Camp, No. 2077, M. W. A., and the Good Samaritans, all of Wabasha. In politics he is a Republican, and he and his family are members of the German Reformed church. To Mr. and Mrs. Pfeilsticker have been born ten children, as follows: Louis Phillip, born August 23, 1884, who is engaged in the grocery and implement business in Wabasha; on November 1, 1904, he married Jessie Dunn, and they have four children, Eleanor H., Vera, Phillip and Lee J. George John, born August 13, 1885, who is in the employ of the Big Jo Milling Co., and who married Cora Barton and has five children, Edith, Dorothy, Carrol, Robert and Georgia; Olivia, born July 17, 1887, now Mrs. A. L. Kylo, of Grantsburg, Wis.; Frank Albert, born July 27, 1890, a farmer in Wabasha, who married Vemba Brown and has three children, Florence, Vemba Louise, and Wilfred; Dora Theresa, born September 7, 1892, wife of Peter Klass, of Wabasha, whose children are Peter, Dorothy and Donald; August, born December 16, 1894, now a resident of Wabasha, who served as a soldier in Europe in the recent World's War, and who married Blanche Davison and has one child, Marian; Allen Henry, born March 6, 1896, who died in Wabasha, July 23, 1905; Charles Leonard, born May 13, 1900; John Walter K., born December 30, 1905; and William Joseph, born January 14, 1907. The three last mentioned are residing at home and attending school.

**C. H. Siem**, Mayor of Elgin village, of which place he is a representative business man, was born in Germany, November 22, 1849, son of D. C. and Henrietta (Conroy) Siem. His parents were natives of Germany, the father for many years being an engineer in the employ of the German government. D. C. Siem died in 1891 and his wife in 1883, both in their native land. They had four children, all sons, namely: John D., Hans F., C. H., and P. H. C. H. Siem received an excellent education in Germany, where he grew to manhood. In 1870, having reached his majority and being his own master, he set out to seek his fortune in the "New World," and rightly deciding upon the Northwest as offering the best field of opportunity, he came to Minnesota, settling first in Olmsted County, where he remained for one year. Then coming to Wabasha County, he located in Elgin Township, where he found employment and began to accumulate a little capital with an eye to future independence. In 1885 he invested his money in 240 acres of land in the township, which land by 1891 he had developed into a fine farm with an excellent set of buildings. He then sold it and bought another, of 160 acres, near the village of Elgin, on which he followed diversified farming until 1917, during most of that period residing in the village. Careful management and good headwork advanced him far along the road to prosperity and extended his reputation as a man of ability, and gradually he became looked upon as one of the representative citizens of the county, and as such was called upon to fill important positions, both of a busi-



ness and public nature. For 27 years he was president of the board of education of Elgin, for three years chairman of the Township board, and is now serving his fifth term as president of the village council. In 1910 he was appointed a member of the board of equalization under Governor Johnson's administration. He was also for a time president of the Farmers Elevator at Elgin, and in all these various positions has shown the energy and capacity that marked his career as farm proprietor. Fraternally he is a member of Elgin Lodge, No. 115, A. F. & A. M., and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Siem was married, September 15, 1872, to Margaret Reimers, who was born in Cook County, Ills., April 19, 1856, daughter of John and Katherine (Reier) Reimers. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Siem, namely: Emma M., August 17, 1880; Henry, March 21, 1882; George, April 10, 1886; Arthur, November 28, 1889; and Edward, October 23, 1893. John D., who is assistant cashier in the First State Bank at Elgin, married Nellie Dunn, and has two sons, Walter C. and Wyatt. Lizzie is now Mrs. Frank J. Richardson, residing with her husband, a retired farmer, in Elgin. They have two children, Margaret and Katherine. Emma M. married Byron Rice and has one child, Basil. Henry is a hardware merchant in Clark, S. D. George is employed in the Soufal general store in Elgin. Arthur, who served nine months in the World War, is now assistant cashier in the Clark County Bank, South Dakota. Edward, who served two years in the navy during the World War, and was 15 months in France, is now engaged in carpenter work.

**John Reimers**, who was in former years a successful farmer and prominent citizen of Oakwood Township, was born in Holstein, Germany, where he grew to manhood and married Katherine Reier. Coming to the United States in 1853, they located first in Cook County, Illinois, of which they were residents 15 years. In 1868 they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Oakwood Township, where they spent many years in agriculture, in time becoming prosperous. In their latter years they turned the farm over to their son-in-law, and retired to Rochester, where Mr. Reimers died in 1895, and Mrs. Reimers in 1903. They had also two daughters: Margaret, now wife of C. H. Siem, of Elgin; and Katherine, who is deceased.

**Arnum Zickrick**, a recent arrival among the agricultural population of West Albany Township, was born near St. Charles, Winona County, Minnesota, December 4, 1891, son of Edward W. and Harriet (Biers) Zickrick. The father was a native of Lamira, Dodge County, Wis., born in 1851, the son of Michael and Gustina Zickrick, who came from Germany to the United States in 1848, settling first near Milwaukee, and later at Lamira on land now within the city limits, which they bought and farmed. In 1864 the family moved to Elba Township, Winona County, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zickrick taking a farm of 200 acres on the township line, near St. Charles, to which place they moved in about five years after, Michael being engaged in the manufacture of brick there until his death in 1888. Edward Zickrick spent the first thirteen years of his boyhood in Wisconsin, and subsequently followed his parents' fortunes until he came to Wabasha County in 1909, when he bought the farm of 160 acres in sections 12 and 13, Highland Township, on which he has since lived, though since the fall of 1919 he has been retired. His marriage to Harriet Biers occurred July 18, 1878. Arnum, who was the youngest of his parents' four children, was educated in the common school, which he attended up to the eighth grade, and in the Dover High School, where he was a student for one year. Trained to agricultural work, as a youth he aided his father, and from 1913 to 1919 operated the home farm in Highland Township; also, during the three last years of that period he operated with it the Mrs. Bertha McNallan farm of 200 acres. In the fall of 1919 Mr. Zickrick bought his present farm, known as the Carl Moechnig farm, containing 240 acres, and located in sections 22 and 27, West Albany. It is well improved, being provided with a good residence, steam-heated and gas-lighted, two good barns, two corn-cribs, a machine-



shed, hog house, tool shed, thresher shed and poultry house, all substantial buildings and in good condition. Mr. Zickrick has 195 acres of his land under the plow, and is doing general farming, his farm being well stocked with grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs. His operating equipment includes six work horses, and he also owns a Chevrolet touring car. He is admirably provided with everything necessary to carry on a successful farming business, and his practical experience and industry are guarantees of success. Mr. Zickrick was married June 12, 1917, to Caroline Sass, daughter of Frederick A. and Amelie J. Sass, of West Albany Township. He and his wife are the parents of one child, Geneva Florine, who was born April 13, 1918. The family are affiliated with the West Albany M. E. church. Mr. Zickrick is also a member of the Masonic lodge at Kellogg, which he served as junior and senior warden. He is also a 32nd degree Mason of Winona lodge. Politically he is a Republican.

**Rev. Francis X. Mueller**, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Catholic church at Mazeppa, was born in Switzerland in 1870. After receiving his education in the parochial school of his birthplace, Waldkirch, he attended the high school at Gossao, Canton St. Gallen, and subsequently the colleges at Luzerne, Le Troy in France, and Freiburg in Switzerland. He then took up the study of philosophy and theology at the famous university of Innsbruck in Tyrol. After his graduation from that institution he came to America, in 1891, and was ordained on November 22, 1892, in Maria Stein, Ohio, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Elder, of Cincinnati. His first charge was at the St. Paul's church at Fort Wayne, Ind., and there he spent three years. Then he came to Minnesota to be affiliated with the Diocese of Winona. The Right Rev. Bishop Cotter, D.D., appointed him as the first resident pastor at Minneiska, where he successfully established a parish, remaining there from 1895 to 1900. In October, 1900, he was transferred to Mazeppa, Minn., again as the first resident pastor establishing a parish, and has remained here ever since. On Thursday, November 22, 1917, Father Mueller celebrated his Silver Jubilee, the day marking the completion of twenty-five years service in the priesthood. The occasion was an impressive one, and for weeks previously his parishioners busied themselves in making fitting preparations. An immense crowd of people was in attendance, and shortly before 10 o'clock the cross bearers, accompanied by the altar servers, garbed in the symbolic costumes of the church, and followed by little girls dressed in white, and the many different societies of the parish, with banners, marched from the Rectory to the church. From there the visiting clergy, preceded the Rev. Jubilarian, and the officers of the Mass, followed by his Grace the Most Rev. Archbishop Messmer of Milwaukee, to the church, all the ecclesiastics being clothed in the imposing garments of the respective offices. The solemn sacrifice of Thanksgiving was begun by the Rev. Jubilarian, the service being accompanied by solemn and appropriate music. The altars were beautifully decorated with flowers, and the interior of the church with green festoons and Papal flags. Two green placards with silver figures, bearing the dates 1892 and 1917, were placed on the pillars in the sanctuary, signifying the 25 years of Father Mueller's priesthood. After the gospel of the Mass, the Most Rev. and Illustrious Archbishop Messmer, a warm friend and countryman of the Rev. Jubilarian, delivered an inspiring sermon, selecting as his text, Ps. 109, 5: "A priest forever according to the order of Melchisedech." At the offertory of the Mass, the little spiritual bride, Genevieve Huberty, assisted by Beatrice Funk and Angela Wagner, presented the Jubilarian with a wreath of glittering silver wheat and grapes upon a white satin silver-trimmed cushion at the altar. At the completion of the holy sacrifice of the Mass the choir sang the Te Deum Laudamus, after which the procession was again formed, and the happy throng moved down the main aisle of the church out to the parochial residence. The Rev. Jubilarian was assisted at the holy sacrifice of the Mass by Rev. Dr. Wambold of Lancaster, Wis., assistant priest; Rev. Father Sailer of Linton, N. D., as deacon; Rev. Dr. Breig of Milwaukee, as



sub-deacon, and Rev. Father Gregoire of Dundee, Minn., as master of ceremonies. Others who honored the celebration by their presence were Rev. Father Meier of Winona, Minn.; Rev. Father Brazil, of West Albany, Minn., and Rev. Bartholome, of Rochester, Minn.

**Frederick Johann Engel**, an early settler in Wabasha County, and for a number of years a prominent farmer in West Albany Township, was born in Freyenstein, Brandenburg, Prussia, February 4, 1826. He received a good business education and for some years was proprietor of a large mercantile house in his native land. Notwithstanding his advantageous position he was seized with the desire to try his fortunes in the New World, and in 1856 he disposed of his interests in Germany, and coming to the United States engaged in mercantile business at Pepin, Wis. It was some years after this that at Read's Landing, on the Minnesota side of the river, Mr. Engel made the acquaintance of Wilhelmina Frederica Christine Jacob, who was employed as cook in a hotel there, and to whom he was married October 13, 1861. She, like himself, was a German, having been born in Hanover, July 13, 1843, and having come with her parents to America in 1856. Soon or immediately after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Engel settled on land in section 17, West Albany Township. The country, of course, was then wild, and Indians were numerous. In the vicinity lived Mrs. Engel's parents, who were people of some means, and who were engaged in farming there for a number of years. Her mother died in 1870 and her father in 1890, and both are buried in the Lutheran cemetery on Scotch Hill, in West Albany Township. Mr. Engel's tract consisted of 80 acres, which he homesteaded. As a first residence he built a one-room log house, 16 by 20 feet in size, in which he and his family lived until 1873, when he built a more commodious frame house. His first five children were born, however, in the original building. Though Mr. Engel was a very slight man in physical build, he had abundant energy, and by hard work and good management made satisfactory progress, becoming the owner in time of 280 acres. He was popular with his neighbors and during his active career was elected to various town offices, in which he served efficiently. Politically he was a Republican. He was helpful to new settlers and of a generous disposition. His knowledge of business affairs and a natural good judgment caused him to be often chosen as arbitrator in matters of dispute between neighbors, and his decisions were generally respected. Religiously he was originally at first a Lutheran, but later he and his family connected themselves with the Methodist Episcopal church in West Albany Township. Mr. Engel died, sincerely mourned, on July 4, 1893. Since his death his widow and children have increased the size of the farm to 480 acres, 160 acres of which lie in Gillford Township and belong to William, one of the sons. The rest belongs to the Engel estate, which is managed jointly by William and Henry Engel, a total of 455 acres being under the plow. The farm is being operated on a broad and extensive scale, the Engel brothers breeding high grade cattle and Shropshire sheep, besides many hogs. They also buy and ship many cattle. They own their own threshing outfit, together with a large assortment of modern farm machinery, including tractors, and have a number of fine draught horses. The farm is located ten miles southeast of Lake City. To Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Engel were born 11 children, three of whom died at birth. The others were: Wilhelmine, born January 9, 1864; William, April 20, 1866; Adolph, March 15, 1870; Helen, July 16, 1873; Emma, April 22, 1875; Frederick, October 24, 1877; Elvina C., January 28, 1880; and Henry, April 9, 1885. Wilhelmine, Adolph and Helen died in infancy, Wilhelmine at the age of about seven months, in August, 1865; Adolph at the age of four months and nine days, on July 24, 1870, and Helen at the age of six months and two weeks, on February 1, 1874. Of the children not specially mentioned above, Frederick is now a prosperous farmer in Elgin Township. The daughters Emma and Elvina are residing on the home farm. Elvina, familiarly known as "Jennie," had a high and normal





MR. AND MRS. FREDERICK J. ENGEL







school training, and for 15 years taught school in Wabasha County in four different districts, starting at 16 years, being then the youngest teacher in Wabasha County. In addition to their own family Mr. and Mrs. Engel reared Caroline Pershun, who came to live with them at the age of seven and remained until her marriage with William McCracken, of Glasgow Township. They also took a boy named Walter Aho from the State School at Owatonna, but he only remained with them for seven years. The family is one of high standing in this part of the county.

**Emric Polson**, a veteran of the Civil War, and an early settler in Wabasha County, who is now living retired at Millville, was born in Sweden, October 23, 1835, son of Paul and Gusie (Johnson) Polson. The father died in his native land and the mother subsequently came to the United States. Emric came to this country alone in 1857, being then 22 years old. For three years he resided in Illinois, engaged in farming. Soon after the breaking out of the Civil War he enlisted in Company E, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, with which organization he served 18 months, taking part in many engagements, including the important battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg. In 1863 he was discharged, but re-enlisted and served until the close of the war. He then came to Wabasha County, Minn., and homesteaded land in Oakwood Township, the tract being unimproved except for the existence of a log cabin. It contained 160 acres, which in time he cleared, erecting buildings and developing a good farm. There he followed general agriculture until his retirement in 1918, giving a part of his attention to stock raising and dairying. He was one of the stockholders of the Millville creamery, which he helped to organize, and also one of the organizers of, and a stockholder in the Millville State Bank. He is a member of the G. A. R. and of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Polson was married January 13, 1869, on his farm in Oakwood Township to Sophie Johnson, who was born in the same part of Sweden as himself, and who is now residing with him in Millville at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Enoc Utigard. He and his wife have had twelve children, of whom eight are now living: Paul, a resident of Lake City; August, of Shovel Lake, Minn.; Carl, who is in the real estate business at Millville; William, who owns the old home farm, on which he resides; Jennie, who married Albert Olson, a farmer; Manda, wife of Julius Blattener, a farmer of Oakwood; Sarah, wife of Albert Thompson, a farmer in Oakwood; and Emma, wife of Enoc Utigard, a machinist of Millville. Those deceased are: Lena, Aaron, Oscar and an unnamed infant. Mr. Polson is a man with an interesting career, the early part of which, when he was making history, was crammed full of adventure, and his early pioneer days in Wabasha County were not untinged with romance. He always bore himself as a man, and he and his wife are widely known and highly esteemed, having brought up a large family to be useful men and women. Mr. and Mrs. Polson celebrated their Golden Wedding on January 13, 1919.

**Eldon B. Doty**, one of the pioneers of Zumbro Falls, who took a leading part in the development of the village, of which for many years he was one of the leading citizens and business men, was born in New York State, March 21, 1847, son of Baxter and Sarah A. Doty. He was a descendant of Edward Doty, who came to New England on the Mayflower in 1620, his grandfather, Marcus T. Doty, being a great grandson of Reuben, who was a son of Samuel, who was a son of John, who was a son of Joseph, who was a son of Edward Doty, the Mayflower pilgrim. Eldon B. Doty was 14 years old when he came to Wabasha County with his parents, who took a farm in Gillford Township. There he resided until he came to Zumbro Falls as a young man, full of vim and enterprise. The village was then little more than a plat of land, and he was one of the men who transformed it into a community settlement and place of business, he starting the first store here. At the same time he owned and carried on a farm about two miles out. He afterwards erected other store buildings and a residence on Main street. Mr. Doty was a man of varied accomplish-



ments, able to turn his hand to many things. He did most of his own carpenter work and, being also a good mason, he laid the walls of the two-story brick building in which he carried on his general store. He was also a druggist, and conducted the first drug store in Zumbro Falls. After carrying on his store for a number of years he sold the business and engaged in selling coal. Later he restocked his general store, which he subsequently operated until his death, November 30, 1912. It was then continued for three years by his widow, who then sold the store and business and rented the building. Mr. Doty served as treasurer of the village and of the school board and was in many respects a highly efficient and useful citizen whose work and influence made for good in the community. He was a prominent member of the Masonic lodge, and a man of high character and exemplary home life. In 1899 Mr. Doty was married to Laura M. Adams, daughter of Robert C. and Mary A. (Door) Adams, who came to the northwest from Kingsbury, Maine, in which state the family had been settled for some generations. It was in 1867 that they located on a farm near Hammond, Wabasha County. Robert C. Adams died at Zumbro Falls in 1917, and his wife, now 88 years old, is residing with her son, Eugene. Mr. and Mrs. Adams had 12 children, of whom there are six now living: Eugene, of Zumbro Falls; Hannah, now Mrs. Frank Albright, residing in North Dakota; Mary, who married Robert Jarrett, and lives in Rochester; Margaret, the wife of Amond Hanson, of Rice Lake, Wis.; Walter, who lives in the state of Washington; and Laura, the widow of Eldon B. Doty. To Mr. and Mrs. Doty three children were born: Marie B., Robert E. and Walter R. Marie graduated from Carlton College at Northfield, Minn., and is now a teacher in the high school at Byron, Minn. The two sons reside in Zumbro Falls with their mother.

**John Alexander Duffus**, a thriving farmer of West Albany Township, comes of good pioneer stock, and was born in section 3, this township, May 14, 1875, son of William and Anne (Wilson) Duffus. He acquired his literary education in the district school, which he attended up to the age of 17, and a practical knowledge of agriculture on his parents' farm, in the operation of which he was from an early age associated with his father. During the winter of 1894-95 he attended the Minnesota Agricultural College. At the age of 21 he rented the home farm from his father, and subsequently operated it until the father's death in October, 1908. Owing to the disposition of the property by the elder Mr. Duffus, the subject of this sketch now owns the north 80 acres of the home farm, on which the house stands, and operates two other "eighties" adjoining for his mother and sister, to whom they respectively belong. He has remodeled the house, which is now a two-story modern structure, gas-lighted, and has a good complement of substantial buildings. In 1916 the former barn was destroyed by lightning, and Mr. Duffus has replaced it with another, 40 by 80 by 16 feet, with a full 9-foot basement, and equipped with modern steel stalls and stanchions. He has a good machine shed 16 by 72 by 10 feet, with a granary, milk and ice-house, double corn crib with 8-foot driveway, poultry house, garage and steel windmill. He is successfully conducting general farming and dairying, milking 18 cows, and the farm is well stocked with high grade Shorthorn cattle, some 40 to 50 head Shropshire ewes and Red Duroc hogs. He also owns a complete Nichols & Shepherd threshing outfit, with other first class equipment, the farm in all respects being one of the best in the township. Mr. Duffus is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Co. of Lake City, and a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association of Lake City, and is interested in the U. S. Mexico Oil Co. He has served eight years as a member of the school board, being a Republican in politics, while his fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America at Lake City. Mr. Duffus was married September 20, 1899, to Julia Ann, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (McIllreave) Huddelston, of Glasgow Township, this county, where she was born March 18, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Duffus have three children: Allan Wilbur, born June 22, 1900; Mildred Aurilla, May 20, 1903; and Margaret Catherine, August 20, 1916.









GERHARD HEINRICH AMERLAND



**Gerhard Heinrich Amerland**, one of Wabasha County's honored pioneers, who in his humble way aided in developing the great Northwest, was born in Hanover, Germany, June 5, 1828. When he was 18 years of age he left his native country and came to the United States, spending his first five years in this country in New Orleans. From there he came up the Mississippi river to St. Louis, where he remained two years. Then coming farther north he resided at Stillwater a short time, whence he came to Wabasha County and filed on land in Greenfield Township. That winter he returned to St. Louis, but in the spring of 1854 he came back to Wabasha County, accompanied by his brother, Herman. The log house that stands in the rear of the more pretentious residence in which he died was built by himself and brother more than 60 years ago. Mr. Amerland arrived at a time when there was much to be done in the way of developing nature's resources and lending aid in establishing those institutions which go to build up a civilized community, in all of which he took an active part. He had many characteristics decidedly his own. As a companion his sociable disposition and keen wit made him incomparable. An hour spent with him when in a reminiscent mood was a rare treat, especially when he narrated incidents of early pioneer life. His memory was a marvel, and the accuracy with which he related a story was only surpassed by the spicy manner he had of telling it. He was fond of the company of others, and above all things he loved music and song. He was a man among men, a friend to his friends, and for these qualities he was respected and esteemed by his associates and neighbors. He filled his station in life and did his duty as he found it. Of the most strict integrity, he gave everyone fair treatment and expected the same from others. Truly he was a man to be remembered by anyone who ever formed his acquaintance. On Saturday, July 10, 1909, the sad news was received that Henry Amerland was relieved of life's sufferings and had passed away from all earthly cares after being confined to his bed for many months. The funeral services were held at his old home on the farm in Greenfield on the following Tuesday, being conducted by the Rev. Carl Landsberger. Teutonia Lodge, No. 19, I. O. O. F., attended in a body and performed the last sad rites of the order over the remains of their departed brother at Riverview cemetery. Interment was made beside the remains of his devoted wife and daughter, who preceded him to their everlasting home. Christina Amerland, wife of Gerhard Heinrich Amerland, was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Frank, of Watopa. She was born at Frankfort, Germany, on December 20, 1833, and came to this country with the family in 1854. In the spring of 1856 she came to Wabasha County, and on September 3 the same year became the bride of G. Henry Amerland. With him she passed many happy years at their home in Greenfield, where at last death called her on Monday morning, March 20, 1905. The end was very sudden and unexpected. She had arisen that morning soon after 6 o'clock and came down to the kitchen where her daughter, Lucy, was preparing the morning meal. She was in her usual health and good spirits. Lucy went into the pantry and heard her mother fall. Rushing out, she found her mother on the floor. She complained that she was feeling very ill and weak. This was the last word spoken. She was placed on the lounge, a physician summoned and also Mr. and Mrs. Julius Schmidt of Wabasha, and Edward Amerland and sister of Greenfield. At 8 o'clock she passed away. It was evidently a hemorrhage of the brain. Mrs. Amerland was a good wife and mother and a faithful and devoted Christian woman. She was one of God's noble women and she did God's work in rearing a large family and instilling into their hearts the beautiful virtues that have so fruitfully manifested themselves in the lives of such useful members of society as have gone out from that home. Her work is done. She lived beyond the allotted time, three score and ten, and she died esteemed by all who knew her. Hers was a beautiful character and her every word was a benediction.

**Judson T. Wentworth**, a well known farmer of Plainview Township, who is also one of the town officials, was born in Farrington Township, Olmsted



County, Minn., January 31, 1872, son of Clinton and Jane Wentworth. He acquired his literary education in the rural and public schools of Wabasha County, and subsequently took a course at Darling's Business College, Rochester. For one year subsequently he remained at home, and for three years after that was in the store with his brother, E. L. Wentworth, at Minneiska. On the death of his father in 1896 he returned home and until 1904 was engaged in operating the home farm for his mother. Since that time he has operated it on his own account. The farm contains 160 acres and is located in sections 12 and 13, Plainview Township. Mr. Wentworth has made a number of improvements on the property, having rebuilt some of the buildings, and is following diversified farming on a profitable basis. As a stock raiser he gives his chief attention to Red Poll cattle, which he breeds both for beef and dairy purposes, his milch cows numbering about 14 head. His swine are of the Chester-White breed. Mr. Wentworth for a number of years had been a prominent citizen of his township. For the past ten years he has served as town treasurer, which office he is still holding, and he formerly served an equal length of time as town clerk. He is also school clerk of his district, in which capacity he has served 15 years. He is a member of the local Shipping Association, of which he has been secretary and treasurer since its organization, and for the last 10 years he has been treasurer of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery. A member of the Old Settlers' Association, he has been its treasurer for many years. His fraternal affiliations are with the Odd Fellows and Foresters. The long period during which Mr. Wentworth has performed official functions for various organizations gives evidence of his active interest in everything that makes for the social or material progress of the community, and shows that he embraces every opportunity to make himself useful. For these and other reasons he has gained the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens, and is a man of mark and influence, an important wheel in the business and social machinery of Plainview Township. Mr. Wentworth was married November 15, 1904, to Mary Har, who was born in Plainview Township, August 11, 1873, daughter of Felix and Katie (Marnach) Har, her parents being well known pioneers of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth have one child, Hazel, who was born January 30, 1909.

Louis C. Lunde, a prosperous merchant of Lake City, proprietor of a well stocked clothing store and merchants tailoring establishment, was born in Gulbrandsdalen, Norway, July 26, 1854, son of Christian and Mary Lunde, the parents being farmers. He was one of a family of five children, of whom two brothers, Ole and John, and a sister, are now deceased, another brother, Aaman, still residing on the home farm in Norway. In his native country he attended the common and high school, and subsequently worked at the tailor's trade. In 1876 he came to America, landing at Quebec, Canada, from which place he proceeded to Toronto, where he worked for a time at his trade. Then entering the States, he followed his trade in Chicago until 1880, and for three years subsequently in La Crosse, Wis. Coming to Lake City, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1883, he set up a tailor's shop here and prospered so that in time he was able to own his own business building. Later he added a stock of clothing and men's furnishing goods, continuing in his original store until 1915, when he sold out and retired. He had become so wedded to his work, however, that life without it seemed tame and monotonous, and he became so restless that in 1917 he re-entered into business, opening a place on Main street in a rented building, where he is now engaged in merchant tailoring, and keeps a stock of clothing and men's furnishings, enjoying a prosperous business. In 1911 he paid a visit to his old home in Norway, being gone three months or more. In August, 1886, Mr. Lunde was married to Julia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Olson, of Pepin County, Wis. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Lillian, born June 9, 1887; Milton, December 1, 1888; Blanche, April 15, 1890; and Lawrence, March 2, 1892. Lillian married Marvin Anderson, a



traveling salesman for Latsch & Son, of Winona, in which city she and her husband reside. She has one son, John Richard. Milton, who was for some time in the store with his father, enlisted for service in the recent war and was honorably discharged. He married Josephine Wood, of Lake City, and they have one child, Elizabeth. He and his family are now residing in Wyoming. Blanche is the wife of George Mitchell, of Fargo, N. D., who has land interests and is engaged in the automobile business. She has one child, Margaret H. Lawrence was graduated from the Lake City high school, later from Hamline College, and in 1919 from the St. Paul Law College. While studying law he served as assistant postmaster in the State House. He was drafted for service in the war with Germany, but enlisted and trained at the Great Lakes Naval Station. He was honorably discharged February 27, 1919, and subsequently resumed law work in St. Paul. Mr. Lunde has always been a Republican, but in local politics votes for the man rather than for the party. In the Masonic order he has advanced as far as the Commandery. He also is an Odd Fellow and for years belonged to the Encampment, and he belongs to the Lake City lodges of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Red Men. He was reared in the faith of the Norwegian Lutheran church, but as that denomination is not represented in Lake City, he and his family are affiliated with the Swedish Congregational church, of which he is a liberal supporter. His children are all graduates of the Lake City high school, and Blanche, in addition, of the Winona Normal School. All have done credit to their upbringing and are useful and respected members of the communities in which they reside.

**Arthur W. Slawson**, a prominent citizen of Greenfield Township, where he is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, was born in Janesville, Wis., April 7, 1859, son of Dwelling and Lucinda (Dudley) Slawson. The father was a native of New York state and the mother of Adams, Mass. They came west to Wisconsin in 1857, and from there to Minnesota in 1860, settling in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County. Here they made their home for the rest of their lives, Mr. Slawson dying in 1890 and Mrs. Slawson in 1908. They were consistent members of the M. E. church and were esteemed as industrious people and good neighbors. They had nine children: Arthur, Curtis, Olive, Scott, Willis, Ely, Cora, Susan and Charles. Dwelling Slawson was considered one of the best deer hunters in Minnesota, having killed as high as 14 deer in one week. Arthur W. Slawson was given a district school education. At an early age he became busy on the home farm and subsequently worked for his father until 1882. He then went to Janesville, Wis., the place of his birth, and resided there for a year. At the end of that time he returned to Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, and rented and for four years operated the L. O. Cooke farm. He then purchased his present farm of 296 acres, 96 acres of which lie in Greenfield Township and the rest in Glasgow. He has cleared most of the land, erected an entire set of buildings, and put up all the fences, transforming the place into an excellent farm. He is raising the usual farm products, including stock, with profitable results and has gained rank among the substantial citizens of his township. He has served a number of years as a member of the school board of his district, and is a member of the Odd Fellows' fraternal order, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Old Settlers' Association of Plainview. He and his family are religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Slawson was married March 28, 1889, to Louisa Graner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Graner. Her parents, who were born in Germany, came to this country in the early fifties, settling in St. Louis, Mo. In 1852 they came to Minnesota, being among the earliest settlers in Cook's Valley, Wabasha County, where they spent the rest of their lives in farming. Mr. Graner died in 1916, and his wife in 1908. Mrs. Arthur W. Slawson died on May 4, 1919, and Mr. Slawson now makes his home with his son, Willis, who was born February 2, 1890. The other children of Mr. and Mrs. Slawson—all



younger—were: Lila A., born August 24, 1892, now Mrs. James R. Fairchild; Raymond A., born October 12, 1894; and Gladys F., born January 15, 1899. Raymond A., on August 7, 1918, was drafted into the United States service, and on September 23, the same year, sailed for France, where he was stationed six months, being a member of the 101st Ammunition Train, Company A. He was not in action and was discharged at Camp Dodge, Iowa, May 6, 1919. Mr. Slawson is one of the old and well known residents of Wabasha County, his recollections going back almost to pioneer days. In the coolie in which his farm is situated cattle and horse thieves at one time had a corral where they concealed their booty, and another evidence of early lawlessness was an old still which he found in the woods. He has witnessed many changes for the better, and has himself achieved prosperity, in addition to his farm owning a summer cottage at West Newton.

**Peter Buol**, one of the leading representatives of the agricultural industry in Greenfield Township, was born June 3, 1858, in Switzerland, his parents being Christ and Katherine (Loitscher) Buol, natives of that country. Both father and mother are now deceased, the father dying in 1908 and the mother in 1877. They were members of the Reformed church. They had seven children; Peter, Bartley, John, Andrew, Barbara, Valentine and Dora. Andrew is now deceased. Bartley and John reside in California, Valentine in South Dakota, and Barbara and Dora are still in Switzerland. Peter Buol was educated in his native land and was there engaged in farm labor for a number of years. In 1880 he came to America, and to Minnesota, locating in the village of Wabasha, where he remained until 1882. For a year after that he worked in the pineries in the northern part of this state. Then, in 1883, he went to Pierre, S. D., where he remained ten years, being employed in a brickyard there for four years and farming the rest of the time. In 1893 Mr. Buol returned to Wabasha County, locating in the town of Greenfield, where he rented the Salzman farm of 185 acres, where he operated until 1898. He then bought 160 acres in section 16, Greenfield, on which farm he erected most of the buildings, besides doing general repairing. He there followed mixed farming and dairying, keeping Brown Swiss cattle, with a full-blooded sire at the head of his herd, and made good financial progress. In 1919 he sold that farm and bought one of 67 acres in section 15, Greenfield Township, where he is now engaged in truck farming and dairying, still keeping his Brown Swiss cattle. On his present place he has made valuable improvements, having built a modern 8-room brown stucco residence, a basement barn 36 by 66 feet, with the James equipment, and several outbuildings. As a farmer Mr. Buol has been highly successful, and is reaping the reward of his industry and intelligent management. He has become a prominent citizen of his township, and also of Wabasha County, having rendered four years' service as county commissioner, in addition to which he was for three years a member of the school board of District No. 30, Greenfield. He is fraternally affiliated with the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, Equitable Fraternal Union, Red Men and Modern Samaritans, and religiously with the Reformed church. Thirty-six years ago Mr. Buol assumed the responsibilities of domestic life, being united in marriage, December 10, 1883, to Louisa Birckley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Birckley. Her parents, born in Baden, Germany, came to America in 1856, locating first in St. Louis, Mo., where they remained for one year, after which, in 1857, they came to Wabasha County, Minn., and engaged in farming and stock raising in Greenfield Township. Mr. Birckley died, however, in 1859, and his widow subsequently married John Saltzman. By each husband she had three children, those of her first marriage being Sophia, Louisa and Bertha, and those of her second, Barbara, Mary and John, the last mentioned being now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Buol are the parents of seven children: Rosa K., born January 27, 1885; Louisa H., April 7, 1887; Christ P., August 15, 1889; John A., March 2, 1892; Lawrence P., November 23, 1894; Dorothy E., September 22, 1897; and





PETER BUOL AND FAMILY





MATHIAS LEISEN AND FAMILY



Bartley B., July 8, 1900. Rosa K. is now Mrs. E. G. Ballard; the other children are residing on the home farm. Lawrence B. Buol was drafted for service in the late war, June 24, 1918, and became a member of Battery C, 331st Field Artillery. He sailed for France September 17, 1918, and was there six months, though without having an opportunity to get into action. On his return home he was discharged at Camp Dodge, Iowa, February 18, 1919.

**John Ahrens**, a retired farmer and respected citizen of Greenfield Township, was born in the Duchy of Luxemburg, April 12, 1845. He remained in his native land until after attaining his majority, and then, in 1867, came to Minnesota, settling in Wabasha County. Here for ten years he was engaged in farm labor, working for others, but practicing economy and saving his money with the view of future independence. In 1877, having accumulated sufficient funds to make a start, he bought 160 acres in section 8, Greenfield Township, and began the development of a farm. His labors on this place covered a period of 33 years, during which period he grubbed, broke and cultivated his land and erected buildings and fences, carrying on general farming and stock raising. In 1910 he retired from active work, and turned over the farm in good condition to his son, Michael, who is now operating it. Mr. Ahrens was united in marriage with Emma Weber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anselem Weber, her parents being natives of Germany. Of this union five children have been born: Emil, January 29, 1876; Michael, March 4, 1878; Barbara, May 7, 1880; Margaret, January 9, 1884; and Matt, December 29, 1892. The Ahrens family are members of the Catholic church and hold a recognized position among the industrious, prosperous and respected residents of Greenfield Township.

**Mathias Leisen**, now deceased, who aided in the development of Greenfield Township by the establishment of a good farm, was born in Germany, March 14, 1848, son of George and Elizabeth (Baker) Leisen. The parents, likewise natives of Germany, came to the United States with their family in 1862, and making their way to Wabasha County, Minn., settled on land in Glasgow Township, where they spent the rest of their lives engaged in farming. They were members of the Catholic church and worthy and industrious people. Mathias Leisen acquired his preliminary education in his native land and afterward attended district school in Glasgow Township. For a number of years after laying aside his schoolbooks he worked for his father, but in 1880 began farming for himself, buying 160 acres in section 34, Greenfield Township. He cleared most of the farm himself, besides erecting buildings and putting up fences. Later he bought 77 acres in section 26, Greenfield, increasing his farm to an area of 237 acres, which he cultivated as a general farmer and stock raiser until his death on March 26, 1916. He was a member of the Old Settlers' Association, also of St. Joseph's Society, in religion being a Catholic, like his parents. For several years he served as a member of the Kellogg school board. Mr. Leisen was married January 19, 1880, to Katherine Zeimmetz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Zeimmetz. Her parents, who were born in Germany, came to America in 1862, first locating in Illinois, and later in Wisconsin, where Mrs. Zeimmetz died in 1870. After her death Mr. Zeimmetz came to Wabasha County, Minn., where he died in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Leisen have been the parents of eight children: Elizabeth, born November 20, 1881, now the wife of Peter Geim; George, born September 27, 1883, who died May 3, 1919; John S., born June 7, 1886, who was drafted in the army August 29, 1918, and was in Camp Dodge three months, being discharged November 25, 1918; Katherine, born June 23, 1888, widow of Wm. G. Demming of Kellogg; Anna M., born February 12, 1891, who died August 6, 1891; Albert S., born November 8, 1893, who is now operating the home farm for his mother; Nicholas, born November 8, 1894, who was drafted into the army September 18, 1917, became a member of Battery B, 18th Field Artillery, served 14 months in France, being in action at Meuse-Argonne, and was discharged August 14,



1919; and Joe J., born May 12, 1897. Nicholas is now assisting Albert in the operation of the home farm.

**Lenhard C. Dose**, an energetic young farmer of West Albany Township, was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, Minn., April 3, 1892. His parents were Fred and Margaret (Meincke) Dose, early settlers in that township, who became prosperous farmers there. The father is now deceased, but the mother is still living, being a resident of Lake City. They had a family of seven children: Mary, now Mrs. D. Reincke, of Oak Center, Minn.; Anna, wife of J. D. Henn, of Pierce County, Wis.; Emma, wife of W. Heise, of Mt. Pleasant Township; Fred, who resides on the old home farm in Mt. Pleasant Township; Lenhard C., of West Albany Township; George, a farmer at Oak Center; and Margarine, now Mrs. Adolph Isense, of Goodhue County. Lenhard C. Dose was educated in the rural schools and remained on the home farm until attaining his majority. Then in 1913 he went to Goodhue County, where for three years he operated the old Charles Burfiend farm. In 1916 he bought 160 acres of improved land in section 16, West Albany Township, with buildings, on which farm he has since resided. He has rebuilt the house and improved the other buildings, and in the summer of 1920 let the contract for a barn 36 by 84 feet with 14-foot posts, with full 8-foot basement, equipped with modern appliances, and now has 148 acres of the land under the plow. The land is fertile and produces good crops, and Mr. Dose has it well stocked with grade Shorthorn cattle and Chester-White hogs, milking from 12 to 15 cows. His equipment is good and includes an auto car. A thoroughly capable farmer, he is also a hard worker, and is making good financial progress. He has served as clerk of his school district for three years, and in politics is independent. Mr. Dose was married September 23, 1913, to Katherine Wiebusch, daughter of John and Anna Wiebusch, of Belvidere, Goodhue County, where she was born July 29, 1894. He and his wife have two children: Victor George, born October 17, 1915, and Vivian E., born February 8, 1917. The family are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation of Lake City.

**John B. Passe**, an early settler in Wabasha Township, who through industry and good management achieved success in agriculture, and is now living retired and well to do in Wabasha City, was born in Germany, June 12, 1848, son of John S. and Mary A. Passe. The parents spent their lives in Germany, which was their native land, and where both died. It was there that John B. attended school and subsequently became a farmer. In 1874, at the age of about 26 years, he emigrated to Minnesota, settling in Wabasha Township, Wabasha County, where for two years he worked for others on farms. His ambition to become independent made him economical, and by the end of the two years he found himself in a position to make a start for himself, and he accordingly purchased 160 acres of land in section 6, Wabasha Township. About the same time, on February 8, 1876, he married Mary F. Stroot, who was born in Germany, March 8, 1853. He and his wife were made of good pioneer material and worked harmoniously together toward a common purpose, living plainly and enduring hardships patiently. They began life on their place in a small log house which Mr. Passe erected, but which afterwards gave place to a comfortable frame house and barns, and from time to time, as the necessity arose, he added to his outbuildings. He also on two occasions purchased more land, including 40 acres in section 7, Greenfield Township, and 40 acres in section 6, Wabasha Township, and later 80 acres in section 4, Wabasha Township, which gave him a farm of 320 acres. The 80 acres he later sold. All this land was wild when it first came into his possession, and he cleared it. This work took many years, but was finally accomplished with the assistance of his wife and, in later years, that of his children. Mr. and Mrs. Passe continued on the farm until the fall of 1915, when, having acquired a competence, they retired and moved to Wabasha City, where Mr. Passe bought a comfortable residence—a substantial brick residence on the corner of Second and Bridge streets. Here





MR. AND MRS. JOHN B. PASSE







on August 25, 1918, his wife passed away at the age of 65 years. She had nobly fulfilled her duties as wife, mother and neighbor, and her loss was deeply and sincerely mourned by her husband and children and all who knew her. In 1919 Mr. Passe sold his farm to his sons, John B. and Henry, who have managed it since the spring of 1916. During his residence in Wabasha Township, he served five years as clerk of his school district. In politics he has always been a Democrat, and in religion he and his family are Catholics, and those in this locality members of St. Felix parish. Mr. and Mrs. Passe were the parents of nine children: Mary, now Mrs. Henry Freese, of West Albany Township; Edith, now Mrs. Charles A. Olson, of Chicago; Elizabeth, who is keeping house for her father; Emma, deputy county treasurer of Wabasha County; Edward, deceased; John B., Jr., and Henry H., now on the old home farm; Tina, who is a nurse at St. Joseph's hospital at St. Paul; and Fred, who is deceased.

**John B. and Henry Passe**, two brothers who are engaged in operating the old Passe farm on Wabasha Hill, in section 6, Wabasha Township, are both natives of this township, where John B. was born December 9, 1887, and Henry, April 16, 1890, sons of John B., Sr., and Mary F. (Stroot) Passe. The farm was established by their parents in 1876, and has been constantly improved and developed, John and Henry as they grew up doing their share of the work. In 1916 the management of the place was turned over to them by their father, who had retired and moved to Wabasha, and in 1919 they purchased it from him. They are operating it successfully, raising grain and some stock and doing dairying and truck farming. Their equipment is modern and complete and they own two good auto cars. Catholics in religion, they belong to St. Felix parish, and politically may be described as liberal Democrats, placing personal qualifications before party affiliations. On November 28, 1917, John B. Passe married Margaret Lee, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lee, of St. Paul. She was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, August 9, 1887, was subsequently graduated from the Wabasha High School and the Winona Normal School and taught in Wabasha County. The issue of this marriage is a daughter, Marion Margaret, who was born June 23, 1919. John Passe served for some years as school treasurer. Henry Passe is unmarried. Both brothers are practical farmers and are hard workers. They have taken up the work which their parents laid down and are aiming to carry it forward to a still higher plane of development.

**William Ingraham Howatt**, a well known and respected citizen of Mt. Pleasant Township, engaged in operating a good farm in section 25, Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Banffshire, Scotland, May 3, 1875, son of William and Isabella (Lobban) Howatt. There he first attended school, his education being continued in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., after his parents' final settlement here. They removed in 1895 to the farm on which he is now living, and where he has since remained. In 1902, he rented the farm and started in for himself, and the progress he has made proves him to be thoroughly conversant with all the various branches of agriculture and stock raising. In 1909 he purchased 80 acres in section 31, Lake Township, and in 1914, 80 acres in section 36, Mt. Pleasant Township, which adjoined the Lake Township tract on the west so as to make one farm of 160 acres, and this he leased to James Zeimetz, after having operated the 80 acres first purchased, in connection with the home farm, from 1909 to 1914. On the latter he is engaged in diversified farming, keeping Shorthorn cattle, of which he has from 40 to 50 head, with about an equal number of Poland-China swine. For both herds he has full-blooded sires, and is constantly improving his stock. His operations have been thoroughly and carefully conducted and he is now numbered among the substantial men of his township. Politically a Republican, he is a member of the town board, and during the recent war served on all the Liberty Loan drives, his thorough Americanism prompting him to take the



most active part of which he was capable in helping to win the war. He was reared a Scotch Presbyterian, but he and his family are members of the Congregational church at Lake City. Mr. Howatt was married September 6, 1905, to Laura, daughter of Rhodes and Josephine (Webster) Merrill, of Central Point, Goodhue County. She was born November 28, 1880. They are the parents of three children: Dorothy Evelyn, born December 5, 1906; Lester Alexander, August 18, 1909, and Isabelle Josephine, February 4, 1912.

Lawrence Wagner, the present proprietor of the old Feddem farm on Sand Prairie, Greenfield Township, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, October 1, 1875, son of Gottlieb and Mary (Graff) Wagner. His parents are now residents of Kellogg village. He was educated in the district school, and his early youth was spent on the home farm, where he resided until 1890. After that he worked for a while at the stone mason's trade, and subsequently for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, in whose employ he was for three years. He then went to Barron, Wis., in the vicinity of which place he worked at farm labor and at logging for three years. After that he spent three years in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, and three in Highland Township. At the end of that time he began farming on his own account, renting his father's farm in Glasgow Township for four years. His next move was to purchase a farm of 236 acres in sections 30 and 31, Greenfield Township, on which he erected buildings and made improvements; and from there he came to his present farm on Sand Prairie, which he is operating with profitable results. While a resident of Oakwood Township Mr. Wagner served one year as justice of the peace. He was married August 29, 1898 to Mary Shearts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Shearts, who came to America, and to Wabasha County, Minn., in the forties, settling in Glasgow Township, where they still reside. Their children were Frank, Mary, Elizabeth, Katherine, John and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wagner have been the parents of seven children, who were born as follows: Anna, January 5, 1900; Martha, February 22, 1902; Edward, December 31, 1903; Clara, January 6, 1906; Ida, November 22, 1907; Marian, January 14, 1911; and Joseph, May 4, 1914. The last mentioned died in infancy, on June 18, 1916. Anna is now the wife of Carl Hilbert, of La Crosse, Wis. Mr. Wagner and his family are members of the Catholic church.

Henry Husser was born in Canton Argau, Switzerland, in 1861. After completing his school years he learned the printing trade and stood with that profession until 1884. A printers' strike caused him to lose a well paying job. According to the custom of those days, the single fellows of the striking unions had to leave and look for work elsewhere, but only for schedule wages. His travels brought him to Bremen, where he desired to leave for America. Not having any money for transportation, he worked as coal pusher on a boat. In this country he earned his first money on an oyster schooner on Chesapeake Bay by Baltimore. After that he worked on a German newspaper in Chicago, but found a dictatorship and collections run the same way as in the old country. He decided to work further on in the country under more free conditions. In 1886 he sent for the rest of the family—his mother, one brother and two sisters. The father had died before that. The brother is now in California, one sister married in South Dakota; the other sister and mother died here. In 1891 he bought a small place in the town of Mt. Vernon and grubbed a home out of it. In 1895 he married Mrs. Mary Farnsworth of Baraboo, Wis., born in 1861. She was the daughter of William Farnsworth and Mary Sherf. Her father was an old pioneer from Pennsylvania; her mother was from Saxony, Germany. In 1901 Mr. Husser bought his present place of occupation, near Minneiska, from Mr. Val Jacob, an old pioneer from the fifties and a veteran of the Civil War. The place had been rented before for many years, since Mr. Jacob was old. It was all run down and very unprofitable, but was close to school, to church and to the railroad. With the help of his wife and growing-up son, John Husser (born in May, 1896), he improved the place, making it highly productive. The





HENRY HUSSER AND FAMILY







swamp land was improved. The hilly land, formerly all washed out, was planted to orchard fruit of many kinds and turned out profitable. His experiments show that the Wabasha County climate and soil are very favorable for a high class orchard fruit raising. Many kinds of berries are also raised. A herd of nice and productive Guernsey cows roam in pasture in summer and are well housed for winter. The family belongs to the Catholic church, and both father and son belong to the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Husser thinks this country is all right for everybody that is willing to work and not inclined to squander.

**Edward Wehrenberg**, a prominent farmer and citizen of Greenfield Township, was born in this township, May 18, 1874. His parents, John H. and Anna (Frye) Wehrenberg, were natives of Hanover, Germany, who came to the United States in 1855, locating first at St. Louis, where they remained for a year. In 1856 they came to Minnesota and settled in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, John H. Wehrenberg taking a claim of 320 acres in sections 20 and 29. In time he cleared most of the land and erected a fine set of buildings, converting his place into a model farm. There he resided, engaged in general farming, until his death, September 25, 1905. His widow is now residing with her son, Edward. Edward Wehrenberg was brought up on the parental farm and educated in the district school. Until 1905 he worked for his father, and then he and his brother Charles bought the home property, purchasing the interests of the other heirs. Here he and his brother are engaged in general farming, feeding a large number of cattle and hogs, the latter of the Duroc breed, with a full blooded sire at the head of the herd. Edward Wehrenberg was married November 21, 1911, to Elizabeth Asher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Asher of Mondovia, Wis., who were farmers in that locality. Both parents are now deceased, Mrs. Asher dying April 31, 1906, and Mr. Asher June 9, 1917. They were members of the Catholic church. Their children were George, Jr., John, May and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wehrenberg have one child, Charles W., born November 5, 1917. Their religious affiliations are with the German Lutheran church, and Mr. Wehrenberg belongs also to the Modern Woodmen of America, being head Council of his camp, and to the Modern Samaritans.

**Ernest A. Goetz**, a popular shoe merchant doing business in Plainview, of which village he is one of the enterprising and prosperous citizens, was born here, January 5, 1891, son of August and Rose (Wandry) Goetz. The parents were natives of Germany who came to the United States when young and were married in Plainview, this county. They settled on a farm in the township and in time became prosperous and highly respected, residing there until 1913, when they retired to the village. Mrs. August Goetz died January 1, 1918, but Mr. Goetz is still living in Plainview. Ernest A. Goetz acquired his education in the public schools of this township and village, including the high school. He began industrial life as clerk for Koenig Bros. & Co., for whom he worked four years. In 1913 he purchased his present business, and has a fine retail boot and shoe trade, carrying a good and complete stock of everything in his line, orderly arranged in a good sized and attractive store. Honesty, courtesy and close attention to business have already advanced him far on the road to prosperity, and as a member of the Business Men's Association of the village he takes an active part in promoting its commercial interests. Mr. Goetz was one of the patriotic young men who volunteered to serve in the military forces of the United States in the recent World War. He enlisted June 24, 1918, in the infantry, was made supply sergeant of the 40th Company, and was at Camp Grant until his honorable discharge January 2, 1919. He is now a member of the American Legion, and secretary of the Plainview Post. Mr. Goetz was united in marriage March 12, 1919, with Hazel M. Lloyd, who was born in Eyota, Minn., July 6, 1897. They have a pleasant home in the village and are popular members of the younger social set, with whom they exchange mutual hospitalities.



**Gust Olson**, in former years a well known and respected citizen of Mt. Pleasant Township, where he was successfully engaged in agriculture, was born near Urbru, Sweden, November 3, 1843. He attended school in his native land, where he spent the first 25 years of his life. He then resolved to seek his fortune in the United States, and left Sweden May 26, 1869, arriving in New York June 26. From that city he made his way west, partly by boat, to Grand Haven, Mich., from there to Milwaukee, then by train to Galena, Ill., and up the Mississippi by steamer to Lake City, Minn. The journey was a tedious one, as he had little money and could not pay for the best accommodations. On arriving here, or soon after, he found work in a lumber yard, where he was employed for four years. Before the end of that period he made the acquaintance of Mary Anderson, daughter of Andrew and Christina Anderson, and was married to her at Lake City, December 27, 1872. After his marriage Mr. Olson continued working for others until the spring of 1877, when he started out on his career as a farmer, moving on to the Peter Beck farm in section 22, Mt. Pleasant Township, where he remained two years. After that he operated the Collins farm in section 25 for two years. He then made another step in advance, buying 80 acres in section 26, Mt. Pleasant Township, adjoining Hazlett farm on the north, and about the same time he rented and moved on to the Hazlett farm in section 36, containing 320 acres, which he operated up to the time of his death. Long before the termination of his career, however, he bought an improved farm of 160 acres in section 32, Lake Township, five and a half miles south of Lake City. This was a productive farm, with good buildings, and formed a valuable part of his estate. In the meanwhile a family of sons and daughters was growing up around him, whose names, with birth dates, are as follows: Ida M., born November 30, 1879; Alma M., November 16, 1881; John W., August 14, 1883; Albin G., February 25, 1886; David L., March 5, 1889; and Alice M., April 14, 1895. Mr. Olson died June 5, 1912, leaving the record of an industrious and capable farmer and good citizen. His widow and children, none of whom are married, have since continued to operate the two farms, buying the Hazlett place in 1913. On this farm is a fair set of buildings, the house having been improved by the family, who have also erected a large machine shed, and made other improvements. The total area of the two farms is 560 acres, nearly all of which are under the plow, and the farms are well stocked with Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine, all of high grade. The 400-acre farm in Mt. Pleasant Township is operated by Albin and David, while the Lake Township farm is operated by John, with the aid of his sister, Alma. The other daughters remain on the home farm with their mother. All are industrious and respected members of the community and are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City. The family has just erected a new modern barn of 90 by 50 feet, with full basement and equipped with Loude stanchions and running water.

**Gust D. Labisky**, chairman of the Plainview Township board, and a well to do general farmer and stock raiser, was born in the province of Schleswig, Germany, December 11, 1859, son of Dave and Rosa (Quark) Labisky. The parents, natives of the same province, came to the United States in 1868, locating in Sheboygan County, Wis. Two years later they removed to Manitowoc County, in the same state, where they spent the rest of their lives, the father dying in 1888 and the mother in 1898. Gust D. Labisky was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin, and for one winter in North Dakota. After living with his parents until 18 years of age, he worked out two years, and then, in 1878, came to Minnesota, locating in Winona County, where for about two seasons he was engaged in farm work. After that he spent two seasons in North Dakota, at the end of that time taking a homestead in Edmunds County, South Dakota, where he farmed for seven years. Then returning to Minnesota, he operated rented farms in Wabasha County for two years, afterwards for six years in Winona County, and still later for eight years in Wabasha County.









MR. AND MRS. DENNISON S. MELENDY



again. At the end of that time he bought his present farm of 160 acres in section 27, Plainview Township, on which he has since made valuable improvements, having rebuilt the house and nearly all the barns and erected other outbuildings. He is profitably breeding Shorthorn cattle for dairy and beef purposes, and also raises Poland China hogs. In 1919 he bought a farm of 160 acres in section 26, which he has deeded to his two sons, Charles and Albert. A man of forceful character, keeping in close touch with public affairs, Mr. Labisky has naturally been called upon to serve in public offices. He has been a member of the school board for many years, and is now chairman of the township board, of which he has been a member nine years. His religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church. Mr. Labisky was married March 14, 1888, to Bertha Nienow, who was born in Germany, May 2, 1865, and came to America in 1867. He and his wife are the parents of five children: Charles J., born February 7, 1889; Leona C., December 25, 1890; Albert H., October 18, 1894; Clara M., February 11, 1898; and Verna, born December 10, 1899. Charles J. is now a farmer in Plainview Township. Leona C. is the wife of Albert Claussen, and has three children, Vera, Alvin and Chester. Albert H. is farming the home place, Charles is farming the land in section 26, while Clara M. is residing at home with her parents, and Verna is keeping house for Charles. Mr. Labisky is an excellent type of the self-made man who has attained prosperity through his own efforts, and he is well known and respected throughout this part of the county.

**Denison S. Melendy**, one of the most remarkable citizens of Wabasha County, now living on the beautiful farm in section 12, Plainview Township, which he purchased 40 years ago, though retired as a farm proprietor, is still able at the advanced age of 96 years to do a fair day's work, and enjoys being useful in preference to leading a life of idle leisure, which he could well afford to do. His remarkable achievements in this direction merit further attention and permanent record. Mr. Melendy was born at Orange, in Orange County, Vermont, October 8, 1824, only nine years after the battle of Waterloo and the close of our second war with Great Britain, and when steamships, railroads, and the electric telegraph were as yet unknown. His parents were Ebenezer and Sybil (Maisey) Melendy. His education was acquired at the Newbury Academy, Newbury, Vt., and after following the prescribed course he took up the work of a teacher, which he followed in the district schools for four winters. That he was a young man of recognized ability may be inferred from the fact that he served as superintendent of the schools in his native township, and was also elected to the offices of town clerk and town treasurer. On February 16, 1861, Mr. Melendy was united in marriage with Caroline Melendy, who was born at Grafton, N. H., October 10, 1841, daughter of Carlton and Betsy D. (Bean) Melendy. Directly after his marriage he purchased a farm of 140 acres in the Connecticut River Valley, in Orange County, Vt., and engaged in agriculture, an occupation which he followed on the same farm for nearly forty years, or until 1880. He was now 56 years old, and most men of his age would have been content to remain on the spot where they had made their home for so long a period, but Mr. Melendy had all the ambition and energy of a much younger man, and though he was too late to be a pioneer, he resolved at least to be a settler in the distant and prosperous state of Minnesota, where there was still plenty of good land not yet worked out or depleted. Accordingly with his wife and three children he said good-bye to the old home and came to Plainview Township, Wabasha County, where he located on a farm which he had previously purchased on the beautiful Greenwood Prairie, section 12. This he soon built up into a model farm in every respect and became numbered among the leading and prosperous citizens of the township. In 1896 he suffered a great loss, amounting to about \$4,000, when his outbuildings, with their contents, including six stacks of grain and 39 hogs, were completely destroyed by fire. But being a man of unlimited courage and perseverance, he reconstructed



the buildings, erected a large barn, and remodeled the house, his prosperity being only temporarily interrupted. In 1899 Mr. Melendy relinquished the more arduous tasks of farm life, turning the farm over to younger hands, and it is now owned and operated by his son, Marcus D., with whom he and his wife are living and keeping house for themselves. But though he gave up the harder work, he is by no means idle. During the year 1919 he took full care of the lawns and a large garden of nearly an acre of ground, raising over 125 bushels of potatoes, which he hoed and cared for, and dug and carried them ail into the cellar, besides splitting 20 cords of wood to keep the home fires burning, a remarkable performance for a man in his 95th year, and which probably has never been equaled by any man of his age in this county, and rarely anywhere. For several years he served as a member of the school board, having always kept up his early interest in education. The three children born to Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Melendy are: Nettie, now Mrs. V. W. Johnson, of Plainview village; Marcus D., proprietor of the old home farm in Plainview Township; and Edgar E., who is also a resident of the township.

Marcus D. Melendy, proprietor of a fine farm called the Greenwood Prairie Home, in section 12, Plainview Township, which was established by his father 40 years ago, was born in Fairlee, Orange County, Vt., April 20, 1867, son of Denison S. and Caroline C. (Melendy) Melendy. He was educated in the public schools of his native county and in Wabasha, Minn. It was in 1880, at the age of 13, that he was brought by his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., the family locating on the farm on Greenwood Prairie, in section 12, Plainview Township, that the subject of this sketch is now operating. Later he took up farming on the farm of 160 acres in section 12, belonging to his uncle, Carlton Melendy, and was thus occupied until 1905. He then purchased a farm of 90 acres, also located in section 12, on which he resided until 1908, when he sold it and moved to the village of Plainview, where he made his home for six years and a half. In 1915 he went to California, where he was engaged in driving an auto bus line, being located four months at Burlingame and later at San Mateo. On June 22, 1917, he left California in an automobile headed for Wabasha County, Minn., where he arrived July 29, to become manager and proprietor of his father's farm, which he has since continued to operate. The farm, which is his own property, contains 160 acres, and is well provided with substantial buildings and machinery. Mr. Melendy is one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the county, believing in modern methods of agriculture, which he is using with profitable results. His cattle are of the Durham breed, with full-blooded sires at the head of the herd. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. For several years he was a member of the board of supervisors of Plainview Township, a part of the time being chairman, and for many years he was a member of the school board of his district. While a resident of Plainview he also served one year as a member of the city council. In these positions he rendered efficient service and proved himself a good man of affairs. Mr. Melendy was married September 25, 1888, to Lucy G. Wentworth, who was born July 20, 1869, and who has proved a faithful helpmeet and loving wife and mother. They have four children: Lynn E., born August 30, 1889; Avalin F., July 27, 1894; Lloyd D., August 30, 1907; and Stacy M., December 22, 1910. Lynn E. Melendy, who at the age of 16 took up electrical work at Red Wing, where he remained two years, subsequently spent two years in Oregon in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. A severe illness from typhoid fever caused him in 1910 to seek renewed health in California. There in the following year he was married to Mary Ennes, of Hillsboro, Ore. Until three years ago he made his home in San Francisco, where he was an electrician in a steel mill. Then becoming interested in aviation, he attended the Christopherson Aviation School, became a licensed pilot and was made an instructor in the same school. In May, 1918, he enlisted as a Marine and was sent to Miami, Fla., where he received two



months' training. Then going overseas, he saw active flying service as a member of the Northern Bombing Squadron of the First Division. On his return home at Christmas time, following the signing of the armistice, he resumed his work as instructor in the Aviation school in San Francisco. While making a demonstration flight at Ft. Bragg on Sunday, June 13, 1920, his machine was struck in midair by another plane driven by an aviator named Eldridge and fell in flames to the ground, Mr. Melendy and the two men with him being killed. He was a young man with an enviable record and his untimely death was greatly mourned. Avalin F. Melendy, after graduating from the Plainview high school in the class of 1913, entered the Winona State Normal School, where she took the advanced elementary course and is now teaching at Evelith, Minn. The Melendy family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**John H. Eggers**, now living retired in the village of Plainview, was for some years one of the leading farmers in this township. He was born in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, December 24, 1874, son of Jurgen and Elsie (Eitzman) Eggers. His education, begun in a district school in Farmington Township, was continued in the Plainview village school, and after he became industrially active he worked for his father until 1896. He then started out for himself, buying 140 acres in sections 23 and 24, Plainview Township, where he did general farming until 1911. In that year he effected a trade of property by which he acquired 240 acres in sections 14 and 15, Plainview Township, at which location he remained, engaged in general farming and stock raising until his retirement in 1919. He has bought a beautiful home in the village, which he now occupies. He served as clerk of Plainview township for 17 years, and was school director of Districts 59 and 62 for 12 years, and is now serving as recorder for the village of Plainview. On April 6, 1896, Mr. Eggers was united in marriage with Adeline Goetz, daughter of August and Rosa (Waundrie) Goetz, early settlers in Wabasha County. They have had two children: Alfred, born April 5, 1897, who is now living on the Louis Holtz farm in this township; and Raymond A., born May 2, 1909, who is attending school in the village. Mr. Eggers and his family are members of the German Lutheran church. They have a wide circle of friends throughout this part of the county and are personally popular.

**Henry C. Marshman**, proprietor of one of the best farms in Plainview Township, if not in the county, which he has developed within the last 16 or 17 years, was born in Washington County, Wis., June 11, 1860, son of Henry and Lottie (Crow) Marshman. The parents were natives of Germany who came to this country about 1845, and spent the rest of their lives farming in Washington County, Wis., where they died. Their son, Henry C., attended school in his home locality, and remained with his parents until 18 years old. His ambition then prompted him to strike out on his own account, and he came to Winona County, Minn., where he worked three years, practicing economy and saving his money. At the end of that time he rented a farm in Elba Township, Winona County, which he operated two years. About 1883 he came to Plainview Township, Wabasha County, and for 20 years thereafter was engaged in operating rented farms. During that period he made steady progress and his bank account gradually increased. By 1903 he was able to buy a good farm, and accordingly purchased the one on which he is now residing, or rather, 240 acres of it, located in section 35. He has since increased its area to 320 acres. His improvements have added considerably to the value of the property, as he has remodeled the house and erected a fine barn and outbuildings. As a breeder of Durham cattle, Poland-China swine and Percheron horses, he has achieved good success, and in addition raises large quantities of grain and other farm products, for all of which, in the present state of the market, he receives good prices. He is a member of the Co-operative Creamery Association of Plainview, and is a school director of District No. 62. Politically



he is a Republican. Mr. Marshman has practically retired from his labors, having turned the farm over to his sons, who are operating it under his supervision. Mr. Marshman was married October 11, 1880, to Amelia Nienow, of Elba, Minn., who was born September 27, 1860. Five children are the issue of this marriage, namely: Mary, born April 11, 1882; Clara, June 11, 1883; Alice, November 17, 1889; Roy, December 2, 1892; and Herbert, February 20, 1895. Mary is the wife of Eugene Holdridge of Quincy Township, Olmsted County, and has one child, Eunice. Alice is now Mrs. Charles Amos of Little Valley, Quincy Township, Olmsted County, and has two children, Rosemond and Paul. Clara graduated from the Winona General Hospital December 29, 1917, and is now a trained nurse. Roy and Herbert are residing on the home farm. The Marshman family are members of the Lutheran church.

Charles W. Carleton, a prominent member of the agricultural community in Plainview Township, where he owns and operates a farm of 170 acres, 120 acres in Plainview Township and 50 acres in Whitewater Township, Winona County, was born in Plainview Township, January 24, 1872, son of John M. and Sarah (Newton) Carleton. The father was a native of New Hampshire and the mother of England. They were married in Wisconsin in March, 1871, and in the same year came to Minnesota, settling in Plainview Township, Wabasha County. In 1874 John M. Carleton bought 120 acres in section 36, the land being partly improved. He finished the work of grubbing and breaking, and later remodeled the buildings or erected new ones when needed, developing the farm into a good piece of agricultural property. After operating it until 1906 he retired, taking up his residence in Plainview, where he died in August, 1912. His wife died on the farm in 1892. They had five children: Charles W., subject of this sketch; Ralph, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, now residing in Starkweather, N. D.; Ella, residing in Plainview Village; Lizzie Amelia, wife of William D. Hassig, of Plainview Township; and Daisy A., who is a stenographer now living in California. Charles William Carleton was educated in the Woodland school and the public school of Plainview. From an early age he assisted his father on the home farm, and was its active manager after reaching the age of 21. In 1906 he bought the property, on which he has made a number of improvements, having erected a machine shed 24 by 64 feet in size, a hog barn 14 by 54, and a chicken house 10 by 24. He has also remodeled the house. He follows general farming, raising Shorthorn cattle for beef purposes, Poland-China swine, and other good stock, and is doing a paying business. Mr. Carleton is a member of the Plainview Shipping Association. He is clerk of School District No. 62, and politically is independent. His religious affiliations and those of his family are with the Methodist Episcopal church. On June 12, 1907, he was married to Lulu E. Hassig, and they are the parents of two children: Harvey A., born October 18, 1908; and Ruth M., born July 9, 1913.

Charles Wehrenberg, who in partnership with his brother, Edward, is conducting a considerable farming business in Greenfield Township, was born in this township October 5, 1877, son of John H. and Anna (Frye) Wehrenberg. He acquired his education in the district school and worked for his father until 1905, when he became his brother's partner in the purchase and operation of the home farm of 320 acres in sections 20 and 29. In 1910 they bought an additional 80 acres in section 29, where Charles is now residing. As general farmers and stock raisers the two brothers are meeting with much success, due to industry and a practical knowledge of the business. Their swine are of the Poland-China breed, and to improve their stock they keep full-blooded sires. In 1919 Mr. Wehrenberg built a new round barn 68 feet in diameter, and has made general repairs on other buildings. For several years he has engaged in operating a threshing outfit. Prominent as a citizen of his township, he held the office of town assessor for three years, and was a member of the town board of supervisors for an equal length of time. Charles Wehrenberg was married





EDWARD WEHRENBURG AND FAMILY



CHARLES WEHRENBURG AND FAMILY







October 18, 1910, to Lucy Graner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Graner of Glasgow Township. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Stanley, born January 1, 1912, and Beatrice G., born November 5, 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Wehrenberg are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he belongs also to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Samaritans.

**Carl P. Engelhart**, proprietor of an elevator at Mazeppa, where he is engaged in the grain business, handling flour and feed, and also coal, is an important factor in the business life of the village, where he was born March 11, 1889. His parents were Peter and Alvina (Dablow) Engelhart, the father a native of Germany and the mother of Geneva, Freeborn County, Minn. Peter Engelhart came to the United States in 1867, locating first in Keokuk, Ia., where he remained two years, at the end of that time coming to Mazeppa, Minn. From 1869 to 1888 he followed farming, and then, coming to town, engaged in the implement business. Later he entered into the grain business, becoming proprietor of an elevator. In 1895 he retired. By his first wife, Alvina, he had four children, all now living, namely: Clara, wife of Ed. Freiheit, a merchant of Zumbro Falls; Elizabeth, wife of A. Jondreau, residing at Cohasset, Minn.; Christina, who lives at home, and Carl P., the subject of this sketch. The mother of these children died in 1895, the year in which her husband retired from business, and he subsequently married Anna Lemke, of Mazeppa, by whom he had a son, Peter C. a medical student in Minnesota University. Carl P. Engelhart was reared in the Village of Mazeppa and as a boy attended the public school here. On attaining his majority he went to Canada, where for four years he was engaged in the grain business. In 1914 he returned to Mazeppa and entered into the same business here, for two years operating the Farmers' elevator, at the end of which time he purchased it from the company, and has since been sole proprietor. He has shown good business ability, and is numbered among the prominent and well-to-do citizens of the village. The Blue Lodge of Masons numbers him among its interested members. Mr. Engelhart was married at Cochrane, Wis., September 9, 1914, to Palma L. Rohrer, daughter of Gottlieb M. and Helen (Auer) Rohrer, her father being the leading merchant of Cochrane, and president of the village board since the organization of that village in 1886, besides having one excellent record in the educational field, as postmaster, town and county official and supporter of important industries in his locality. Mrs. Engelhart's mother was born in Alma, Buffalo County, Wis., daughter of Adam and Barbara (Ballinger) Auer. Mr. and Mrs. Engelhart are the parents of one child, Audrey, who was born September 12, 1915.

**Joseph Ford**, pioneer of Mazeppa, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., in May, 1800. His father was a cloth-dresser, of whom he learned the business, and afterward moved to Madison County, N. Y., where he established and carried on the same business for a number of years. Subsequently he turned his attention to farming, which occupation he followed in his native state until 1855, in the fall of which year he came to Minnesota, locating on the site of Mazeppa. He at once pre-empted 160 acres of land in the north half of section 6, which he improved and for a number of years carried on farming operations, supervising his entire business in person until he was about 80 years of age, after which his son Orville D. took over its management. He died September 28, 1882. He was a highly esteemed member of the community, which he had done much to advance, having with his son, Orville D., platted the village of Mazeppa, including the water-power. He was a man of strong convictions, and with a reputation for probity and fair-dealing above reproach, and his life was that of a sincere Christian, a good neighbor and an active and useful citizen. He married Olive Lindsay, who died October 14, 1881, less than a year before his own demise. Their children were: Hattie, who died June 28, 1881; Devillo C., who died May 2, 1862; and Orton D., who is also deceased; Orville D., deceased; Adelia, widow of Louis B. Mathews of Lake City; Annette I. lives in Chicago, and Acsia, now Mrs. Wesley Kinney, of Lake City.



**Orville D. Ford**, who with his father Joseph platted the Village of Mazeppa, was born in the Town of Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., in August, 1827. He acquired a common school education in his native town, where he resided until September, 1855, when he came to the site of Mazeppa, Minn. Here he pre-empted 160 acres of land in section 30. Subsequently he bought three eighties and settled on the south half of section 6. The land forming the site of the village, which he and his father platted, was purchased by them of Judge Welch of Red Wing, who owned it under the original patent. Orville D. Ford spent his life after coming to Minnesota, in Mazeppa and Wabasha. Besides carrying on a farm, he was engaged in general merchandise and milling, and when the Bank of Mazeppa was started he became one of its stockholders. For a number of years he served as county treasurer. From his purchase of three eighties he sold a number of town lots. In 1873, in connection with his son, Edwin L., he established a boot and shoe store under the firm name of E. L. Ford & Co., and together they developed the enterprise into a large and prosperous business, adding groceries, clothing, dry goods, hats and caps, and other lines to the original stock. He took a lively interest in the growth and welfare of the town and took an active part in shaping its destiny. He and an associate built and operated the first mill in Mazeppa. In 1880 he sold his interest in the mill and retired from business. He was the first president of the village council after its organization in 1856, and held the office of register of deeds for Wabasha County for five years. In 1858 he was elected to represent his district in the legislature of Minnesota and served until 1861, with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He died in Mazeppa, May 9, 1909, honored and respected by the entire community, and having been for more than half a century a prominent citizen of this county. Orville D. Ford was married in New York State, August 3, 1850, to Orille A. Day. The children born of this union were: Edwin L., Addie F., the last mentioned of whom married, first, June 21, 1888, John C. Gilman, and, secondly, May 18, 1897, William D. Kirkpatrick. Mrs. Orille A. Ford, wife of O. D. Ford, was a daughter of Marvin and Eliza (Dunham) Day, the father born in New York State, December 26, 1802, and the mother June 30, 1805. He died March 17, 1888, and she, December 31, 1890. Their children were: Jerusha, born December 16, 1827; Orille A. (Mrs. O. D. Ford), born October 22, 1829; Cornelia E., May 3, 1831; Wallace W., March 23, 1833; Charles E., April 13, 1835; Betsey H., October 16, 1845 (died September 24, 1895), and Eliza, who is also deceased.

**Edwin L. Ford**, for a number of years a leading business man and prominent citizen of Mazeppa, was born in Madison County, N. Y., in 1851, and was four years old when he accompanied his parents to Mazeppa, Minn. Here he grew to manhood, as a boy attending the village school, where he acquired the elements of knowledge. His education was supplemented by an attendance of two or three years at the University of Minnesota, and by a course at the Commercial College of Minneapolis, where he was graduated. On returning home in 1873 he established with his father, Orville D. Ford, a boot and shoe store, which was conducted under the firm name of E. L. Ford & Co. This enterprise was started on a small scale, but grew in size, and finally developed into a large general mercantile business, dry goods, clothing, crockery, hats and caps, and other lines being added from time to time. Later other parties became interested in the business, including Orville G. Nichols, who when young had lived with the Fords, and later worked in the store, and who in 1912, four years after Mr. Ford's death, bought out the other partners, and became proprietor of the business. Mr. Ford died June 3, 1908. He was an excellent business man, a model citizen, and a devoted husband and father. Besides developing the large mercantile business above mentioned, he also successfully operated a lumber yard, of which he was proprietor at the time of his death. He was twice married: first in 1875 to Hattie Barnard, of Minneapolis, who died June 28, 1881. In 1884 Mr. Ford married Annie L. Fricke, a resident of









CARL S. NYGREN



Plainview, and daughter of Julius and Annette (Tebbens) Fricke, who were natives of Germany, from which country they came to Plainview, Minn., at an early date. In the Fricke family there were five children, one son and four daughters. Of the five there are four now living, namely: Augusta, who married Mathew Owens of Humboldt, S. D.; Minnie, widow of J. H. O'Connell, of Plainview, Minn.; Annie, widow of Edwin L. Ford, and A. J. Fricke, of Plainview. By his second wife, Annie, Edwin L. Ford had three children: Paul L., Elizabeth E. and Edwin H. Elizabeth E. is the wife of H. S. Fairley of Fairmont, Minn. Edwin H. served two years in the U. S. navy during the world war.

**Paul L. Ford**, a prosperous man of Mazeppa, was born in this village, February 11, 1885, son of Edwin L. and Annie (Fricke) Ford. He was educated in the public schools and at Carlton College, Northfield, Minn. His early industrial experience was gained in his father's lumber yard, and during 1906-07 he was in the State of Washington. From 1908, the year of his father's death, the latter's estate was conducted by the administrator of the estate, who turned it over to Paul L. Ford in 1912, and the latter conducted it until 1915, when he sold it to Theo. Maas. Each spring and fall he is engaged in buying and selling produce. He also owns 130 acres of land within the city limits, which is operated by a tenant. Mr. Ford was married December 29, 1910, to Eva A. Franklin, daughter of George and Alice (Black) Franklin. Her parents came to Minnesota from New York and Illinois at an early day, settling in Mazeppa, where the father died. The mother is still living. In 1916 Mr. Ford erected a nice modern bungalow of seven rooms, in which he and his wife now make their home. They are people of wide acquaintance and popular members of Mazeppa society.

**Carl Sigfred Nygren**, former member of the Minnesota State Legislature, and now a dealer on a large scale in Minnesota and Wisconsin farm lands, with headquarters at Lake City, was born in the city where he now resides, August 17, 1870, son of Charles John and Maria (Johanson) Nygren. He passed through the common schools and was reared to agricultural pursuits by his father, supplementing his practical knowledge gained on the farm, with courses at the Minnesota Agricultural College in 1896. In 1897 he started operating a farm in Mt. Pleasant Township. He carried on general farming and made a specialty of stock and swine breeding. He was the first farmer in his vicinity to breed registered Shorthorn cattle, and his fine herd of 67 was the pride of the neighborhood. He also had a drove of pure blooded Yorkshire swine and one of good graded Poland-China swine. In 1909, after twelve years successful operation of the farm, he sold out, and moved to Lake City, where he now makes his home at the corner of North Garden and Woodbine streets. Upon locating in Lake City he became traveling salesman for the Climax Western Oil Co. of Minneapolis. Next he became salesman for the Western Oil & Grease Co. of Minneapolis, his territory covering Goodhue, Wabasha and Winona Counties in Minnesota, and also the northern tier of counties in North Dakota. In the spring of 1914, he became district agent for the Equitable Life Assurance Society, with headquarters at Lake City. In addition to this he was also agent for various fire, hail and cyclone insurance companies. In 1916, with John R. Donahue, of St. Paul, as a partner, he engaged in the real estate business. He handles all kinds of real estate, but makes a specialty of farm lands in large tracts. In addition to the land which he acquires from time to time temporarily as a part of his business, he is the permanent owner of a tract of 240 acres of timber land in Aitken County, this state. His business holdings include stock in the Texas Oil Co., of Houston, Tex. Mr. Nygren was elected to the State Legislature in the fall of 1910, and served in the regular session of 1911 and the special session of 1912. He won a good record, was chairman of the Committees on Military Affairs, Agricultural Schools, and Agriculture, and a member of the Committees on Good Roads and Live Stock. Mr. Nygren belongs to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery of the Masons, at Lake City



as well as to the Shrine at Minneapolis. At Lake City he is also a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1916 Mr. Nygren filed as an Independent Democrat for a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis, and won out by about 1000 majority, defeating Frank Sasse, attorney at Austin. He was married October 23, 1907, to Anna, the daughter of Frank W. and Mary H. Miller, of Lake Township, this county. This union has been blessed with four children: Charles Franklyn, born April 6, 1910; William Freeman, born September 29, 1912, and died August 17, 1913; and Harry and Helen, twins, born June 6, 1915.

**Kaspar Scheer**, an early settler in Mazeppa Township, where he made a good record as a pioneer farmer, was born in Germany in 1837. He grew to manhood in his native land, where in 1872 he married Mrs. Susanna Seivert, widow of Pierre Seivert, and soon afterwards they came to the United States, accompanied by the two Seivert children, John and Nicholas. On arriving at La Crosse, Wis., they found they had to wait there a week before they could get a boat bound up the river, and when they finally disembarked at Lake City, Mr. Scheer had but twenty-five cents left in cash. They were met, however, at Lake City by relatives with an ox team, who lived in Mazeppa, and who brought them to the latter township. About ten days later they began housekeeping in a log house in the woods, the building being in such poor condition that when they awoke in the morning they had to shake the snow off the bed before they could get up. After working for others for two or three years Mr. Scheer and his family moved into the village, where he bought three acres of land and built a house. There he resided for the rest of his life, passing away in 1917. At the time of his death he had been a widower for sixteen years, his wife having died in 1891. They had four children, three daughters and one son. One of the daughters, Anna, died when four years old. The surviving children are: Katherine, wife of Cal Raymond, of Brainard, Minn.; Mary, wife of Frank Bunde, of Duluth, Minn., and George, who resides in Mazeppa. Mrs. Scheer's sons by her first husband, Pierre Seivert, are both living, John being a resident of Spokane, Wash., and Nicholas Seivert of Mazeppa.

**Nicholas Pierre Seivert**, the present postmaster of Mazeppa, was born in Itzig, Luxembourg, April 10, 1863, son of Pierre and Susana (Kauder) Seivert. The father was for a number of years a private tutor to children of rich parents, but later engaged in general mercantile business. He fell a victim to the cholera in 1870, and his widow subsequently married Kaspar Scheer, with whom, and her two sons by her first husband, John and Nicholas, she came to the United States about 1872, the year of her marriage to Mr. Scheer. They settled in Mazeppa Township, this county, where for several years they endured pioneer hardships, living in a log cabin in the woods, while Mr. Scheer worked out for others. At the end of that period they moved into the village, where they had a better house, with three acres of land. There Mrs. Scheer died in 1891, and Mr. Scheer in 1917. Nicholas P. Seivert was nine or ten years old when he accompanied his mother and step-father to Wabasha County. After arriving in Mazeppa Township he went out among strangers, working for his board, and also for a while attending school. At the age of twelve he hired out to a farmer, who paid him \$50 for the first years' work, and \$75 for the second year, after which he received \$15 a month. Later he gave up farming and went to work in a cooper shop, learning the trade, which he subsequently followed for a number of years. He also worked five years in a flouring mill at Mazeppa and Wabasha. He then returned to the cooper's trade, which he followed three years in Wabasha, where he also engaged in closing out a stock of groceries for a Mr. Gross. After finally closing out his interests there he came to Mazeppa, where for nineteen years he was a clerk in the store of E. L. Ford. At the end of that time he engaged in the mercantile business for himself, conducting a store for five years in Mazeppa, or until August 24, 1916, when his place was destroyed by fire. In September, that year, he was appointed by



President Wilson postmaster at Mazeppa, which office he still holds. He has been town and village clerk for several years, and has served as a member of the school board as clerk and president. Mr. Seivert was married January 10, 1887, at Mazeppa, to Catherine Bechen, daughter of Theodore and Catherine Bechen. The parents of Mrs. Seivert were both natives of Luxembourg, the father born in Kehler. They came early to this country, as Mr. Bechen served in the Civil War as a private in an Iowa regiment. He and his wife had two sons and one daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Seivert have had five children, four of whom are living. The one deceased was Mary, who passed away in February, 1918. The living are: Susan, wife of Joseph B. Threinen, of Watertown, S. D.; Theodore A., employed in a wholesale shoe concern at St. Paul; Kathryn, who is at home; John, a signal engineer associated with the Western Electric Co. of Chicago, who is assistant postmaster at Mazeppa. Theodore and John both served in the recent war with Germany. Theodore enlisted as a private in the Minnesota infantry, and was stationed five months at Camp Grant. John, who enlisted in the signal corps, also served five months in the United States. Mr. Seivert and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs also to the Catholic Order of Foresters and to the Central Society. The family is one highly respected for neighborly qualities and good citizenship.

**John McDonough**, now living retired in the village of Kellogg, after a successful career in agriculture, is a worthy representative of one of the old pioneer families of Wabasha County. He was born in Galway, Ireland, June 24, 1848, remaining there one and a half years after his parents came to the United States, when he came with his grandparents to America. Residing successively in Vermont, Ohio and that part of the Old Dominion now known as West Virginia, he came with the family to Wabasha County, Minnesota, as a boy of six years, in 1854, their first settlement being made on a tract of land, including one quarter section, in section 1, which the father homesteaded in 1860. He afterward disposed of this land and bought 400 acres in the same township, which the son John helped to develop, working on the farm until 1869, and as a boy attending district school. In 1869 John went to Missouri, where he remained five years, being employed as foreman of construction for railroads in that and adjoining states. Then returning home, he remained on the farm for two years. He now engaged in farming for himself, buying a farm near Plainview, but after awhile he disposed of the place and bought another in Highland Township, and later 160 acres in the town of Watopa. On the last mentioned farm he resided for ten years, operating it on a profitable basis. At the end of that time he retired and moved to Kellogg, of which place he has since been a resident. He has sold a part of his farm, retaining 80 acres, which he has rented out to a tenant, and is now enjoying a period of well earned repose. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. McDonough was married in July, 1878, in Highland Township, to Bridget Murphy, daughter of Timothy and Mary (Ryan) Murphy. Her parents were natives of Tipperary, Ireland, who came to the United States about 1853, and to Minnesota about 1858, settling in Highland Township. Mr. and Mrs. McDonough have had nine children: John, Mary and Joseph, who are deceased, and Edward, James, Julia, Timothy, Mary (second), and Bartholomew, who are still living. Bartholomew enlisted in the 318th Engineers, in the war with Germany, and was in the service for 18 months, 14 of which were spent in France—in the Argonne, at Sedan and Verdun, and with the army of occupation in Germany. He was honorably discharged at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., in June, 1919.

**Bratine Collier**, a pioneer of Wabasha County, was a native of Illinois, in which state he grew to manhood and was married. With his wife Collisa he came to Minnesota in 1856, during the early rush of emigration to this state, then a territory, and settled in Cook's Valley, Greenfield Township, where he took land and engaged in farming. His original trade was that of cooper, but



at that time he had no opportunity to follow it here. Neither did he continue farming very long, for after a few years he engaged in the manufacture of brick at Kellogg and was occupied subsequently until his death in June, 1877. While the Civil War was in progress he served one year as private in a Minnesota regiment. His wife survived him many years, dying June 5, 1907. They had three children: Lizzie, who married E. J. Gage, lives in Minneapolis, and has two sons; Ada, who married C. H. Coleman, resides in Centralia, Wash., and has two children; and William D., proprietor of a blacksmith shop in Kellogg, Minn.

**William D. Collier**, who is conducting a successful business as blacksmith in the village of Kellogg, and has also other business interests, was born in Cook's Valley, Greenfield Township, this county, August 4, 1860, son of Bratine and Collisa Collier. His early years were spent on his parents' farm, but while still a boy he accompanied them to Kellogg, where he attended public school until it became necessary for him to help support himself, when he took up any occupation that came handy. At the age of 13 he drove a dump cart on the Milwaukee road while it was in process of construction. When he was 17 he started to learn the trade of blacksmith, which he has followed ever since, having for many years been proprietor of one of the best equipped shops in the county, which he sold in March, 1920, and is now devoting his time to his truck farm in Kellogg, and is a stockholder in the Telephone Company. As a public spirited citizen he has taken some part in governmental affairs, having served as a member of the village board, and being now in his second term as president of the village, and at one time was acting marshal of Kellogg. For six years he has been president of School District No. 31. He belongs to the Order of Samaritans, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Collier was married, November 9, 1886, to Augusta Weinberg, of Cook's Valley, daughter of Henry and Anna Weinberg. Her parents, natives of Hanover, Germany, settled in Greenfield Township, this county, in 1856, and were farmers there for the rest of their lives. The father died September 28, 1907, but the mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Collier have four children: Edward, George, Edith and Chester. Edward married Mary McGraw, of Kellogg, and is now farming in Greenfield Township. George, who lives in Minneapolis, took an active part in the recent World War, serving as sergeant in the 54th Pioneer Infantry, in France. He was 47 days on the front lines in the Argonne Forest and helped to smash the Hamberg line. He is now treasurer of the Hudson Manufacturing Co., of Minneapolis. Edith is bookkeeper in the store of Kenans & Lydon, Kellogg. Chester is attending school.

**Frederick Fick**, one of the hardy pioneer settlers of Wabasha County, who took an active part in its agricultural development, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, April 5, 1820. In his native land he was married to Mary Danckwart, a native of the same province, born November 19, 1825. They came to the United States in March, 1856, locating first near Joliet, Ill. In June, 1858, they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and settled on 80 acres of wild land in section 10, West Albany Township, where Mr. Fick put up a little shack to house himself, his wife, and their infant son, Henry. Early progress was slow, and Mr. Fick had to work out at anything he could find to do to earn a subsistence for his family. In harvest time he found work near Red Wing for 50 cents a day, and in the winter of 1858-59 he cut 126 cords of wood on an island in the Mississippi, opposite Reed's Landing, for which he received 50 cents a cord. His sole capital when he reached Wabasha County was \$40, but in course of time through unremitting industry and frugality, he became one of the most prosperous men of his locality, and had so increased his land holdings that before his death he had given farms to three of his sons and started another in the mercantile business in Lake City. He died June 13, 1903, and his wife on December 28, 1918. They were both reared in the German Lutheran faith, but joined the German M. E. congregation in West Albany Township.









MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM FICK



Their children were: Henry T., born in Germany, now a prosperous farmer in Polk County, Minn.; William, engaged in farming in West Albany Township; Mary, now Mrs. Gottlieb Moechnig of West Albany; Benjamin C., a retired merchant of Lake City; and Edward L., residing in West Albany.

**William Fick**, proprietor of a large and excellent farm in section 5, West Albany Township, was born in this township June 24, 1860, son of Frederick and Mary (Danckwart) Fick. As a boy he attended the district school up to the age of 15, and remained with his parents until 1883. On November 28, that year, he was united in marriage with Christina, daughter of Christian and Dorothy Prueter, of Lake Township, and he then began farming for himself on a farm of his father's in section 10, West Albany Township, where he remained until 1897. In that year he bought 200 acres in sections 5 and 8, West Albany, known as the James Wheelan farm. There was a poor set of buildings, to replace which he has built a modern, two-story, ten-room house; a frame barn, 36 by 76 by 16 feet, with full basement of 9 feet; a "young stock" barn, 24 by 30 by 10; a granary, 20 by 36 by 12; machine shed, 16 by 48 by 8, and a wagon shed, garage and pump house. He has also purchased a second farm, of 160 acres, in section 4, West Albany Township, adjoining the home farm, and has in all 360 acres under the plow, all very productive land and well tilled. He is engaged in diversified farming, his place being well stocked with high grade Shorthorn cattle, of which he has a herd of from 50 to 60, including 12 to 15 milch cows. He is also a breeder of Percheron horses, being a member of the Percheron Society of America, and aside from these interests, which are highly developed and profitable, he is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at Lake City and the Farmers Terminal Packing Co., of Newport, also a member of the local Shipping Association. In short, Mr. Fick is an excellent type of the successful farmer of today, who keeps up with the march of progress and knows how to draw wealth from the soil, whence all wealth, except that derived from the fishing industry, originally springs. He is a man highly respected, a good husband and parent in the home, and a reliable citizen in all things pertaining to the general welfare. To him and his wife five children have been born: Benjamin E., August 4, 1884; William C., March 20, 1886; Harry V., April 3, 1888; Ella J., August 14, 1890; and Albert, July 30, 1894. Benjamin E., who assisted his father on the home farm till 1920, when he purchased 160 acres in section 33, Lake Township, and in the fall engaged in farming on his own account, was married September 4, 1912, to Mary Ellen Hudleston, of Glasgow Township, and they have one child, Margery Mae, born June 4, 1913. William C., who married Frances C. Cooper, of Central Point, Goodhue County, traveled for the Jewell Nursery Co., of Lake City, until the spring of 1920, when he purchased 67 acres in Central Point and is engaged in farming for himself. Harry V., who was county superintendent for 8 years, is now engaged in the real estate business. Ella J. is the wife of William Grobe, of West Albany Township, and has one child, Ruth. Albert, who assists his father on the farm, married Martha Oak, of Lake City, June 28, 1919. In the fall of 1920 he rented 160 acres from his father in section 4, and engaged in farming on his own account.

**John Howe**, an early settler in Glasgow Township, where he developed a farm, was born in Prussia, Germany. There he grew to manhood and married Susanna Leison, with whom he came to the United States in 1858. They first located at Dyersville, 28 miles west of Dubuque, Iowa, where they engaged in farming. In 1861 they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settling on a homestead of 160 acres in Glasgow Township. There Mr. Howe farmed for ten years, or until his death in 1871. His wife survived him but a few years, passing away in 1876. They had six children: Mary, George, Matthew, Eliza, Peter, John and Jacob. Matthew is now deceased, as also is Mary, who was the wife of John Plein, of Highland, and left five children. After the death of Mrs. Howe, Jacob, the youngest son, came into possession of the farm.



**Peter Howe**, president of the State Bank of Kellogg, was born in Germany in 1851, son of John and Susanna (Leison) Howe. He was seven years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States, and the next three years of his life were spent on their farm at Dyersville, Iowa. In 1861 he came with them to Wabasha County and to a farm in Glasgow Township, where he proceeded to make himself busy as soon as he was old enough to be useful. This early industry was a matter of necessity, as the farm supplied an abundance of work for every able-bodied member of the family, so that Peter was able to attend school but one summer. By home study, however, as he found opportunity during the passing years, he largely supplied the defects in his education and acquired a respectable knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, and to some extent of other subjects, being a quick learner. In 1874, three years after the death of his father, and two years before that of his mother, he purchased a farm of his own, of 150 acres, in the town of Greenfield, where he was engaged in general agriculture until November, 1909, or for a period of 35 years. During that time he proved himself a capable farmer and made good financial progress, so that at the time last mentioned he was able to retire and take up his residence in Kellogg. It was in 1909 that the private bank at Kellogg, established in 1905 by C. C. Hirschey, Linn Whitmore and John Costello, became a state bank, with Mr. Howe as one of its stockholders, and in 1913 Mr. Howe was elected its president, which office he has since retained. In 1910 he was elected trustee of the village and served one year; was again elected, and for 3 years he was village trustee, and for 3 years he was a member of the town board of supervisors, serving one year as chairman. In these various positions, official or otherwise, Mr. Howe has shown himself a capable man of affairs, and stands high as a citizen. He is a Catholic in religion and belongs to the Knights of Columbus. In 1874 Mr. Howe was married at Wabasha, Minn., to Otilia Baker, daughter of John and Anna (Miller) Baker, her parents being natives of Germany, where they spent their entire lives, both being now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Howe have had seven children, Katie, John, Lizzie, Mary, Celia, William and Susanna, the two last mentioned being deceased. Katie married Peter Scheirts, of Helena, Mont., and has two children, Paul and Viola. John married Ruba Parson, of Mankato, resides at Stevensville, Mont., and has three children, Warren, John and George. Mary is a school teacher at Stevensville, Mont. Lizzie married Peter Steiner and is living on the old home farm. Celia is the wife of Linn Pheilsticker, of Wabasha, and has one child, Kendall.

**Fred H. Dose**, of Section 20, Mt. Pleasant Township, is a prosperous representative of the agricultural class which has had the chief part in developing the resources of Wabasha County. He was born on his present farm, July 27, 1890, son of Fred and Margaret Dose, and this place has always been his home. In his boyhood he attended district school to the age of 15, and was trained by his father to agricultural pursuits. In 1910 he rented the farm, and operated it under rental for some time, buying it in 1917. Its area is 160 acres, of which 120 are under the plow. The buildings include a good, two-story frame house, with an adequate barn and other necessary structures. Mr. Dose follows general farming with profitable results, keeping high grade cattle and grade Chester-White swine. He makes a specialty of raising "baby beef," for which he finds a ready market at good prices. To improve his stock he keeps blooded sires for his herds, and in the management of his farm shows a practical knowledge that makes for success. Politically he was formerly a Republican, but has since joined the Non-Partisan League. In March, 1920, Mr. Dose was elected treasurer of Mt. Pleasant Township. He is a member of the Farmers Elevator Co., of Lake City, and of the Farmers Shipping Association, and the Oak Center Creamery in Gillford Township. Mr. Dose was married September 12, 1912, to Emma Wiebusch, who was born November 24, 1892, daughter of John and Anna Wiebusch, of Goodhue County. Their home circle



has been broadened by the birth of two children: Velma, on April 16, 1915, and Rubie, on June 12, 1918. Mr. Dose was reared in the Lutheran faith and he and his family are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City.

**Holsey Asaph Knowlton** was for many years considered one of the best citizens of Plainview and vicinity. He was admired for his business intelligence and honesty, and had a wide acquaintance and many friends in the community he had aided in advancing. During his long life here, he promoted the public interests of the village in various ways and was always found on the side of right and progress. He was born September 12, 1844, at South Stukely, Quebec, Canada, the son of Ezekiel and Mary (Bryant) Knowlton. He was reared and educated in his native town, and came to Plainview in 1866, his father and mother having died in Canada. For a time he farmed north of the village; then, in 1887, he bought 80 acres in section 19, which he farmed until 1909, when he moved to the village and established a home on High Street. These brief facts, however, do not reveal the real worth of the man, or the real work he did in the community. While working hard and achieving success for himself he was ever mindful of the interests of others, and his influence was wide extended. Mr. Knowlton was married October 4, 1870, to Delia Smith, daughter of Abner and Alzina (Montel) Smith. To Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton two children were born: Asa O., who lives on the home place which his father acquired so many years ago, and Ella D., who died in 1897. Mr. Knowlton died in February, 1919, his wife surviving him lives in the village of Plainview. Her parents also came from Canada to Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Plainview Township. They are both now deceased.

**Asa O. Knowlton**, proprietor of a good farm in section 19, Plainview Township, was born in this township, September 14, 1877, son of Holsey A. and Delia (Smith) Knowlton. The parents were natives of Canada, who after coming to Minnesota settled on the farm in Plainview Township on which their son Asa now lives. Subsequently they moved to Plainview, where the father did miscellaneous work, among other things helping to build the railroad when it came to Plainview. He afterwards traded his home in town for a farm in the township. He took a strong interest in horses, of which he was an excellent judge, and himself bred some good specimens. In course of time he retired and again took up his residence in Plainview, where he died. His wife is still living in the village. They had but two children: Asa O. and Ella D. Asa O. Knowlton was reared on his parents' farm and educated in the public school in Plainview. On the death of his father he fell heir to the farm, containing 81 acres, and has since operated it successfully and with profitable results, raising the usual crops, breeding Guernsey cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, and making a specialty of dairying. He has erected a silo and other buildings, considerably improving the farm, and is vice president of the Plainview Creamery Association. He is also a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Greenwood Prairie, of the Odd Fellows, including the Rebekah lodge, and of the Woodmen and Independent Order of Foresters. For two years he has served as a member of the school board. In short, he is a man of general activity in most things concerned with the material, moral and social interests of his township, and enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. Mr. Knowlton was married in 1906 to Jennie Van Horn, daughter of William and Elizabeth Van Horn, of Plainview. He and his wife are the parents of three sons, Archie R., Holsey W. and John C., all of whom are attending school. Mrs. Knowlton is a member of the Congregational church.

**Mathias Gorman**, pioneer, whose career in Wabasha County covered the period of half a century, from 1855 to 1905, was born in Ireland, and came to this country in the early forties. For a number of years the family resided in the East, but in 1855 they joined the stream of emigration to the great Northwest. Their destination was St. Paul, Minnesota, and after reaching the Mis-



Mississippi river they took a boat up stream, but Lake Pepin being obstructed by ice, the boat was unable to proceed further, and the party disembarked on April 20 on Wabasha County soil, and made up their minds to remain here. Others who landed with them were the Lee, McDonough and Leydon families, all of whom settled in this county. Mathias Gorman had been previously married to Nora King, and was accompanied by his wife and two children. He took land in Greenfield Township, and after he had got his family installed in a small house, and done a little preliminary work on his place, he went to Galena, Ills., for cows and other stock, which he brought by boat to Wabasha, and thence overland to his farm. With this stock and their somewhat scanty household effects, they began the work of developing the land and establishing a comfortable home, a task in which Mr. Gorman finally succeeded. His wife Nora was not long spared to him, dying in 1860, and he subsequently remarried. By his first marriage he had five children: Mary and Sarah, who were born in the East; John J., residing in Lake City; Richard and Mathias, Jr. Sarah and Richard are now deceased. Mary is the widow of Earl Howley. Mathias Gorman, Sr., continued active farm work until 1886, when he retired. He had accumulated over 400 acres, and was a prosperous and respected citizen, whose death on February 4, 1905, was deeply deplored.

**John J. Gorman**, now living retired in Lake City after a long and successful farming career, was born in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, Minn., August 14, 1856, son of Mathias and Nora (King) Gorman. At the time of his birth his parents had been located on their farm but a year and four months, and the surrounding conditions were those of a pioneer community, with few white settlers, and but little land developed. As he grew up he assisted his father to improve the place, his waking hours being spent chiefly in work, as he had but little chance for schooling, though the first school in the district was held in his father's original claim shanty. In time he engaged in farming on his own account, acquiring a farm of 320 acres in Greenfield Township, of which he had 200 acres under the plow, the rest being in timber and pasture. He also erected a good set of buildings. His agricultural operations were continued until the fall of 1919, when, on account of failing health, he sold the farm, and moved to Lake City, where he has since lived retired, owning and occupying a comfortable residence at No. 911 North Oak street. During his active career Mr. Gorman served his township twelve years as chairman of the town board, and was assessor eight years. He also served several years as school clerk, and was president of the Kellogg school board. In politics he has always been a Democrat. On July 3, 1883, Mr. Gorman was united in marriage with Mary E. Calhoun, daughter of Lawrence and Mary (McDonough) Calhoun. She was born at Reed's Landing, Wabasha County, August 9, 1859, her mother having been one of the party which landed there in April, 1855, at the same time as the Gormans. Subsequently for some time before her marriage she was a teacher in Wabasha. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. John J. Gorman: Mathew E., Lawrence, Mary C., Margaret, John K., Robert R., and Ruth C. Mathew E., who was a steel worker, met his death by accident at Detroit, Mich., March 28, 1916. Lawrence, who is a railroad engineer residing at Clarion, Iowa, served in the recent war with Germany as a member of Company C, 13th Engineer Corps. He entered the service the second day after the United States declared war, and his company was the first to carry foreign colors in England. It was also the first to take part in the fighting at Verdun, August 16, 1917. It left Marseilles, France, for home April 16, 1919. Mary, who graduated from the Kellogg High and the Winona State Normal School, followed teaching for eight years in Wabasha County, is now Mrs. P. E. Waller, of Braham, Minnesota. Margaret Gorman, who is a graduate of the Kellogg High School and the Winona Normal School, is now a teacher. John K. Gorman, like his brother Lawrence, also served in the late war, and gave up his life for the cause of democracy and freedom from military





JOHN KING GORMAN







oppression, though not in battle. He was a member of Company K, 54th Pioneer Infantry, and went out from Duluth, as he was the owner of a claim in Beltrami County. He worked with the Engineer Corps, and saw active service in the fighting around Verdun, being under shell fire much of the time. He came out of the ordeal unscathed but took sick and died in the hospital, April 12, 1919, being buried in Coblenz. His remains were brought back home in the spring of 1920, and buried in the family lot. Robert R. Gorman, who is a farmer at Roseberg, Ore., is another war hero. He made three efforts to enlist in the West, but was rejected, being finally placed, however, in an emergency fleet there. Being determined to see active service, he came home and succeeded in becoming a member of Battery B, 332d Field Artillery, training at Camp Robinson, Wisconsin. He reached Bordeaux, France, September 1, 1918, and being one of 400 selected to join the Army of Occupation, marched from Bordeaux to the Rhine. He reached home August 28, 1919. Ruth Gorman is a student and is residing at home. It will thus be seen that all Mr. Gorman's surviving sons served their country patriotically in the recent great war, from which one never returned—a fine record, of which the family may well be proud. Their religious faith is that of the Catholic church, attending the parish at Lake City.

**George H. Deming**, of Oakwood Township, was born on the farm on which he now lives, in section 25, on June 4, 1896, son of Frank and Margaret (Knoll) Deming. He acquired his education in the rural school of his district, and at home took up the occupation of farming, with which he soon became thoroughly conversant. In the fall of 1919 he rented his father's farm of 120 acres in section 25, on which he is now following general diversified farming and stock raising, keeping Shorthorn cattle of good grade and Chester-White swine. He is a member of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Association and of the local Shipping Association. He is a veteran of the World's War, having served from June 24, 1918, to July 16, 1919, eight months of the time being spent overseas. Mr. Deming was married November 25, 1919, to Lydia Holland, of Watopa Township. She was born April 4, 1895, daughter of John and Mary (Lamey) Holland, who were early settlers in that township. Mr. and Mrs. Deming are members of the Catholic church.

**Michael J. McGrath**, one of the pioneers of Oakwood Township, was a native of Ireland who came to the United States about 1856, locating in the Lake Superior mining district, where for a short time he worked in the mines. He was there married to Ellen Nolan, also a native of Ireland, who had come to this country about the same time as himself. In 1857 they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, taking 160 acres of land in Oakwood Township. After awhile Mr. McGrath bought another tract of 160 acres adjoining his original farm, which gave him a land area of 320 acres. He erected buildings and developed the place and continued general farming there until his death in 1883. His wife survived him until 1904. After the parents' death the property was divided among the children. Of the nine children, there are seven now living: William, Mary, John, Patrick H., Margaret, Michael, and James. The two deceased are Matthew and Johanna, both of whom died young. Mary is now the wife of Mike Hollihan, and Margaret the wife of James Murray.

**John McGrath**, proprietor of a good farm of 80 acres located in sections 24 and 25, Oakwood Township, was born in this township, October 5, 1866, son of Michael and Ellen (Nolan) McGrath, who had settled in this township about six years before his birth. He was reared on the home farm and in his boyhood attended the rural schools. After remaining home until arriving at the age of 21, he went to Walsh County, North Dakota, where he resided for five years. On his return he bought his present farm, on which he erected buildings which were subsequently destroyed by fire. He has replaced them by another set, bringing his farm into good condition, and as a general farmer is successfully raising grain and stock. Mr. McGrath was married March 7, 1905,



to Bridget Ryan, and he and his wife have been the parents of six children: John Joseph, Zita Marie, Mary Rose, Ellen Honora, William Anthony, and Michael Aloysius, the last mentioned being now deceased. Mr. McGrath and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus.

**Charles Harlan**, one of the early settlers of Oakwood Township, arrived in the township about fifty years ago, taking 80 acres of land in section 23, which he began to improve and develop. Not satisfied with a small farm, from time to time he purchased more land until he owned 320 acres, in the meanwhile erecting buildings, including a good house, barns and outbuildings, fencing and otherwise improving his property until he had developed an excellent farm. After an active and successful career he died March 25, 1918, one of the best known and most respected citizens of his township. Mr. Harlan married Catherine Hall, who preceded him to the Great Beyond by only a few months, passing away in September, 1917. They had been the parents of a numerous family numbering 14 children, namely: Edward, who lives in California; Agnes (first), deceased; Clara, now Mrs. J. J. Ryan; Harry, a resident of Lake City, Minn.; Arthur, who lives in Montana; Catherine, wife of E. R. Holzer, of Elgin Township; Loretta, now Mrs. Julius Gessner, of Highland Township; Genevieve, widow of L. W. Lyons; Angela, now Mrs. Paul E. Cruser, of Minneapolis; Eva, wife of Phil Abrahamson, of Plainview; Carl, of Oakwood; Ralph A., of Oakwood, and Agnes, residing in Plainview.

**Carl R. Harlan**, a prosperous young farmer of Oakwood Township, where the Harlan family has been established half a century, was born on his parents' farm in this township, February 23, 1894, son of Charles and Catherine (Hall) Harlan. He acquired his education in the rural schools and his agricultural training on the home farm, on which he resided until 1919. He then rented the Paul Polson farm of 200 acres in section 22, where he is now following general diversified farming and stock raising, keeping grade Durham cattle, Duroc-Jersey swine and Percheron horses. The cattle he raises both for beef and dairy purposes. He owns 120 acres of the home estate willed to him by his father and in the spring of 1920 bought 160 acres which his grandfather homesteaded, making in all 280 acres in a body. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus. On June 13, 1918, Mr. Harlan was married to Mae Lyon, daughter of G. H. and Mary (Ryan) Lyon, of Highland Township, and early settlers in Wabasha County. They had a family of eight children, five of whom are now living: Patrick, George, Edward, Margaret, wife of Joe Langer of Texas, and Mae, wife of Carl R. Harlan. Those deceased are: Rebecca, Lawrence, and Theresa, who married Herman Wempner. Mr. and Mrs. Harlan are the parents of one child, Catherine, who was born April 7, 1920.

**Julius Reiter**, an early settler in Plainview Township, who subsequently through industry, perseverance and sound judgment achieved a notable success, becoming one of the most prominent and well-to-do citizens in the southern part of Wabasha County, was born in the province of Posen, Prussia, Germany. He was there married to Henrietta Wegner, and a few years after emigrated with his family to America, landing in this country June 19, 1868. His first settlement was made in Olmsted County, Minn., where he remained through the harvest, in the fall of the same year locating in Elgin Township, Wabasha County. There he remained for a few years working out. In 1874 he bought 80 acres in section 7, Plainview Township, on which he built a residence and outbuildings and began to establish a home. From time to time he bought more land until he owned 425 acres in sections 7, 8 and 5, and also 160 acres in Elgin Township, making a total of 580 acres. In addition to conducting a large and successful farming business, he helped to organize the First National Bank of Plainview, and was for many years a director of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. For a long time also he was chairman of the board









WILLIAM O. REITER AND FAMILY



of trustees of the Lutheran church, and acted as secretary for the society. After retiring from farm work, he resided for some years in Plainview village, where he served as a member of the village council. He is now living retired in Pine Island, Goodhue County, and is president of the First National Bank of McGregor, Minn. He and his wife have been the parents of a family numbering twelve children: W. O., now a prosperous farmer and prominent citizen living in section 5, Plainview Township; Augusta, the wife of Emil Schwantz, of Elgin Township; J. J., of Rochester, Minn.; E. H., also of Rochester; A. F. and E. F., of Pine Island, Minn.; Bertha, wife of August Hanson, of Louisville, Minn.; Anna, deceased; Laura, now Mrs. August Greiger, of Louisville, Minn.; A. G., of McGregor, Minn.; Ida, wife of William Boice, of Appleton, Minn., and G. A., of McGregor, Minn.

**William O. Reiter**, who was one of the active and enterprising citizens of Plainview Township, where he made a record as a capable and successful farmer, was born in the province of Posen, Prussia, Germany, October 24, 1864, son of Julius and Henrietta (Wegner) Reiter. He was a young child when he accompanied his parents to the United States, residing with them a short time in Olmsted County, Minn., then in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, where he attended school, and later, after 1874, in Plainview Township, where his studies were continued until his services were needed on the home farm. Under his father's mentorship he acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture, and when 24 years old began farming for himself on an 80-acre farm in section 5, Plainview Township, on which the buildings consisted of a few old shacks. He later bought the west "eighty" in the same section, on which he spent the rest of his life, and where he died very suddenly July 13, 1920. He had erected a fine set of buildings, including a house, barns, and various outbuildings. One of these is a circle barn 60 feet in diameter, a frame structure with stone basement, equipped with the most approved modern conveniences. After taking possession of that property Mr. Reiter followed diversified farming and stock raising, and having been a hard worker, well equipped with practical knowledge, he achieved gratifying results. In other respects, also, Mr. Reiter was what is colloquially termed today a "live wire." He was a member of the American Society of Equity and was its vice president in 1907 and 1908. He was a member and active worker in the Non-Partisan League, being president of the County League and also of the local Union, and was chairman of the Non-Partisan League of Plainview. For four years he served as assessor of the township. He was one of the organizers of the Plainview Co-operative Creamery and was its president for many years. He was vice president of the Wabasha County Leader, published at Wabasha. Religiously a Lutheran, he served as secretary of the local congregation. Mr. Reiter was married, December 6, 1888, to Bertha Kuhlmann, of Elgin, who was born in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, Minn., October 27, 1869. Of this union seven children were born: Amalia H., July 12, 1890; Elenora E., November 23, 1892; Elsie C., February 10, 1894; Elmer J., September 30, 1900; Edna B., August 23, 1902; Walter A., July 19, 1896, and Herbert W., July 12, 1894. The two last mentioned are now deceased, Walter A. having died February 28, 1901, and Herbert W., March 23, 1907. Amalia H. is the wife of John Zabel, of Elgin Township, and has four children, Ruth, Durward, Thelma and Anita. Elenora E. is now Mrs. George Lamprecht, of Plainview Township, and has one child, Forest. Elsie C. is the wife of Adolph Zabel, of Plainview Township. Elmer J. and Edna B. are residing at home with their mother.

**Charles Jacob**, who is operating the old Jacob farm in section 18, West Albany Township, engaged chiefly in stock raising, was born in this township, March 28, 1873, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Scherer) Jacob. He was educated in District School No. 86, which he attended to the age of 15 years, and remained on the home farm until 1900. On October 11, 1898, he married Anna Burkhardt, daughter of Rudolph and Barbara Burkhardt, of Pepin Township,



where she was born June 15, 1876. Her parents had come to this country at an early date from Switzerland. Mr. Jacob began domestic life on the home farm, but has been away from it at times, spending some time in Wabasha engaged in farming and railroad work, about three years in Plainview, where he manufactured brick with his brother-in-law, Alfred Burkhardt, and five years in Hammond, where he operated the William Anderson farm. In the spring of 1916 he returned to the home farm in West Albany Township, buying out his brother John's interest in the stock and machinery, his mother having a life interest in the farm, which contains 230 acres. Of its entire area 90 acres are under cultivation, the balance being in pasture and timber. Mr. Jacob feeds everything he raises on the farm to his stock, which consists of grade Durham and Hereford cattle, Chester-White hogs and Shropshire sheep. He has a good operating equipment and is doing a successful business. His principal market is Lake City, ten miles north. Mr. Jacob is a stockholder in the Wabasha "Leader." Previously a Republican, he is now a member of the Non-Partisan League. He and his family belong to the Reformed Lutheran church. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob are: Harry R., born March 26, 1901; Bessie B., September 9, 1902; Dorance A., March 12, 1904; Secavera E., November 16, 1906; Roy F., September 19, 1908, and Florence, May 7, 1909. Mr. Jacob was one of a family of six children, of whom he was the second in order of birth. His elder brother, Frederick Grinnell, is a farmer in North Dakota. Another brother, Edward, lives in Lake City. Josephine is the wife of Charles Lange, of St. Joseph, N. D. Louisa, who married Lester Cottin, of West Albany Township, died in 1913. Derna is the wife of Frank Schucardt, of Rochester, Minn. John is a farmer in West Albany Township. Clara is the wife of Jacob Dawson, a farmer of New England, N. D. Henry Jacob, father of Charles, is now deceased, having passed away on the home farm.

**Herman Henry Moechnig**, one of the largest stock farmers in Oakwood Township, of which he is also a public official, was born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn., September 21, 1880. His parents were Gottlieb and Mary (Fick) Moechnig, the father a native of Germany, the mother of West Albany Township, this county, where they were married. In the latter township they have resided ever since, except for five years, from 1885 to 1890, when they lived on a half section which they bought in Mt. Pleasant Township. Herman Henry Moechnig was educated in the district schools of West Albany Township, and at St. Paul's College, where he took a business course. He resided on the home farm with his parents until 24 years of age, and then settled on a farm in Wisconsin, where he remained for a year and a half. At the end of that time he bought his present farm of 320 acres in sections 9 and 10, Oakwood Township, where he is carrying on general agriculture, and was the first one in his section to start tractor farming, and is giving particular attention to stock raising. He keeps 65 to 100 head of Hereford cattle, which he raises mostly for beef purposes, shipping 40 to 50 head yearly, and keeping a full blooded sire at the head. Of Shropshire sheep he has 70 head, and ships about 60 head yearly. His swine are of the Duroc-Jersey breed. In addition to these interests, Mr. Moechnig is a member and was one of the organizers of the Millville Farmers' Co-operative Company, and a stockholder in the Wabasha Leader, and the Terminal Packing Plant at Newport, and served five years as supervisor. On November 16, 1904, Mr. Moechnig was united in marriage with Emma Jacob, who was born in West Albany Township, November 27, 1879, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Jacob. He and his wife are the parents of five children: Helen A. R., born February 13, 1906; Walter H., March 21, 1908; Florence, born March 19, 1910; Evelyn H., November 30, 1914; and Lucille B., October 24, 1917. Mr. Moechnig and his family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. They have a wide social acquaintance, and a high standing in the community, of which they are worthy and helpful members.

**Michael Quigley**, the pioneer, was born in Nanagh, County Tipperary, Ireland, and there married Judith O'Donoghue. After his marriage for some



years he served as steward on the estate of J. J. Kilkelly, and on this estate all his children were born. In 1853 the family came to America and lived for a while in New York state. In 1855 they came to Wabasha County and settled in Greenfield Township. Their nine children were: Ellen, wife of John Starr; John, Martin, Michael H., Philip; Maria, wife of John Enright; Jeremiah, Edward, and Cornelius F.

**Martin Quigley**, for many years a representative farmer of Greenfield Township, was born in Nanagh, County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1831, son of Michael and Judith (O'Donoghue) Quigley, with whom and other members of the family he came to America in 1853, and to Wabasha County in 1855. He achieved success as a farmer and respect as a citizen, and died May 24, 1887. Shortly after his arrival here he married Ellen Ryan, who was born in Limerick, Ireland, in 1843, and came to this county in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Quigley were the parents of seven children: Edward, Mary, Julia, John R., Martin, Stephen M. and Nora. Edward farms in Anoka County, this state. Mary is the wife of Daniel Kinsella, a farmer of Oakwood Township, this county. Julia is the wife of Frank J. Schenach, a machinist of Red Wing, Minn. John R. operates and owns a farm in Wright County, Minnesota. Martin, for many years a railroad agent in Butte and Helena, Mont., is now in the oil distributing business in Pasadena, Cal. Stephen M. is postmaster and editor at Wabasha. Nora is the wife of Morris M. Wheeler, of Wabasha.

**Stephen M. Quigley**, postmaster, journalist, educator, banker, and man of affairs, is one of Wabasha's leading citizens, and is well known throughout the Northwest, especially in political, educational, fraternal, civic and business circles. He was born on a farm in Greenfield Township, this county, December 3, 1875, son of Martin and Ellen (.....) Quigley. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, on the home farm, and acquired a good education in the public schools, which he rounded out with studies in the Winona State Normal School. His education was further increased by courses in evening schools, institutes, and the summer sessions of Teachers' Training Schools of Minnesota, as well as by self instruction and wide reading. He started teaching rural schools in the late fall of 1896, and in 1899 was made principal of the school at Kellogg, this county. In the summer of 1902, he was employed as salesman for the Champion Harvester Co., but soon resumed his educational work, for in the fall of 1902 he was elected superintendent of schools in Wabasha County, a choice which proved pleasing to parents, trustees, teachers and children alike. This position he held for two terms. This, however, was not the limit of his educational work. In 1900 he was one of the organizers of the Wabasha County Teachers' Association, serving as the president and secretary of his division for several years. As county superintendent he was a member of the State Reading Circle Board for four years, one year of which he was its treasurer. Upon retiring from the county superintendency, he was made deputy county auditor, taking office January 1, 1907. January 1, 1911, he left this position. In that month he assisted in organizing the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Wabasha, and entered its employ as assistant cashier. In the spring of 1914, he was appointed postmaster at Wabasha, in which position, by reappointment on September 13, 1918, he is still serving. In the meantime, Mr. Quigley had been busy with many other interests. In September, 1905, he bought a half interest in the Wabasha Herald from estate of J. F. McGovern, and the firm continued as Keating & Quigley until October 16, 1908, when Mr. Quigley became the sole owner, since which time he has continued as its manager. In 1911 he helped to organize the Wabasha Ice Cream & Butter Co., of which he has been the only treasurer. Mr. Quigley has been a life-long Democrat and stands high in the councils of that party. In the old caucus and convention days he served as a leading figure on numerous committees and delegations. For many years he was an official of the County Democratic Central Committee, and at one time was a member of the State Democratic Central Committee. Frater-



nally he has been likewise prominent. He helped organize Wabasha Council, No. 881, K. C., has passed through the chairs and is now Grand Knight. He was also a charter member and has passed through the chairs of the Kellogg Council, No. 50, Modern Samaritans. Among other orders he belongs likewise to the Wabasha Camp No. 2077, M. W. A. Interested in everything that has for its object the progress of the community, he has been a "live wire" in the Commercial Club, of which he has served as secretary, and in the Wabasha Club. He gives his religious allegiance to the St. Felix Catholic church, of which he has been a trustee for many years. All in all he is a useful citizen, he has done much for the community, and has attained success for himself, and holds the respect and admiration of all who know him. Mr. Quigley was married November 27, 1913, to Mary C. O'Leary, daughter of J. C. O'Leary and Mary O'Leary. Before her marriage she had been for some years a teacher in the Wabasha schools. Mr. and Mrs. Quigley have three children: Abigail, born April 17, 1915; Elizabeth Ann, born June 17, 1916; Ellen Patritia, born March 15, 1918.

Blake C. Fisk, member of the board of county commissioners of Wabasha County, and a popular citizen of Plainview, was born in Plainview Township, this county, May 22, 1873, son of Chauncey and Sarah (Finch) Fisk. His education was acquired in the Plainview public school, and he remained on his parents' farm until 25 years old. Then starting out for himself, he bought a farm of 360 acres in Glasgow Township, which he operated for two years. Then he removed to another farm, one of 160 acres in section 10, Plainview Township, but retained his ownership of the other, and operated both for seven or eight years. At the end of that time he sold them and purchased the old home farm in section 8, Plainview, where he is still carrying on general farming and stock raising, keeping full blooded Shorthorn cattle, of which he has a fine herd for breeding purposes. He has leased 21 acres of his farm for 15 years to the Wabasha County Industrial Fair Association. Mr. Fisk was elected county commissioner from the First District in 1916, and for one term was chairman of the board. He also previously served on the Plainview Township board. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Redwing Lodge, No. 845, B. P. O. E. On December 28, 1898, he was married to Grace Landon, who was born February 9, 1874. They have five children, who were born as follows: Millard L., April 15, 1903; Wyman B., March 25, 1905; Charles S., February 15, 1909; Russell A., May 17, 1911; and George H., September 18, 1916. The family attend the Congregational church, and in politics Mr. Fisk is a Republican. He has, however, always placed the public interests before party, and his vote and influence are cast in support of progressive measures, subject only to such modifications as may be rendered necessary by economical considerations, and his public action has been in accord for the most part with that of his colleagues and endorsed by the great mass of citizens.

William Goihl, a well known and prosperous farmer residing in section 10, West Albany Township, was born on the farm he now owns and operates, October 26, 1877, son of Carl and Anna (Schader) Goihl. The parents were early immigrants in this county, coming from Germany, and the father, who was a blacksmith by trade, conducted a shop in addition to farming. He became prosperous, and finally retired in 1908, removing to Lake City, where he owns a fine residence. He and his wife Anna have had four children: William, subject of this sketch; Carl, who is deceased; Paul, a well-to-do farmer in Lake Township; and Anna, now Mrs. Frank Ramer, of Pepin Township. William Goihl in his boyhood attended school in the Scotch Settlement near his home, continuing his studies to the age of seventeen. He remained on the home farm, and until he was thirty, assisted his father. In 1908, on the father's retirement, he bought the property and has since operated it on his own account. It contains 160 acres of cultivated land and 20 acres of timber. It is well stocked





B. C. FISK







with grade Shorthorn cattle and Chester-White hogs, and the operating equipment is modern and complete, the farm being one of the best in West Albany Township, both as to the buildings and the productiveness of the soil. Mr. Goihl is one of the prominent citizens of his township, where he has lived all his life. He is chairman of the district school board. Aside from his direct farming interests he is a stockholder in the Lake City Co-operative Creamery and in the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Co. of Theilman village, and a stockholder in the Terminal Packing Co. of Newport, Minn. He owns and operates a threshing outfit for himself and neighbors, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. In politics he is independent. Mr. Goihl was married November 10, 1908, to Elizabeth Schmidt, daughter of Carl and Anna Schmidt, of Glasgow Township, where she was born March 9, 1884. He and his wife have three children: Carl, born September 27, 1919; Julius, born November 23, 1912, and Dorothy, born March 31, 1918. Mr. Goihl and his family are members of the Catholic church and of St. Joseph's parish at Theilman.

**William J. Schmoker**, a large land owner and well-to-do citizen of Greenfield Township, now living retired, after a successful career in agriculture, was born in Fountain City, Wis., September 8, 1863. His parents, Paul and Rose (Staili) Schmoker, were natives of Pennsylvania who settled in Wisconsin in 1853, and who spent the rest of their lives in farming. They have both died within recent years, the mother in 1905 and the father in 1906. They had eight children, Jacob, John, Anna, Mary, William, Paul, Frederick and Lora, of whom Jacob and Anna are now dead. William J. Schmoker was educated in the district school, and subsequently worked a number of years for his father. After that he rented the home farm for two years and worked it on his own account. He then went to South Dakota, where he remained six years engaged in similar pursuits. Returning to Minnesota at the end of that time, he located in Winona, where he worked six years in the Chicago & Northwestern railway shops. He then spent a year in Plainview as an agent for agricultural machinery. At the end of that time he determined to resume farming, and accordingly bought 160 acres in section 30, Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, on which he made his start. Since then Mr. Schmoker has accumulated more land until he now owns 500 acres, on which he has erected all the buildings, besides fencing. He continued actively engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1919, when, having acquired a competency, he retired, turning over the management of the place to his son Paul, who is now operating it, Mr. and Mrs. Schmoker retaining their residence on it. They are Lutherans in religious faith, and Mr. Schmoker formerly served three years as a member of the Kellogg school board. Mr. Schmoker was married May 2, 1882, to Helen Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Martin. Her parents were natives of Germany who came to this country in the fifties and engaged in farming in Wisconsin, whence they came to Glasgow township, Wabasha county where they spent the rest of their lives, Mr. Martin dying in 1886 and Mrs. Martin in 1896. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church. Their children, eight in number, were Frederick, Albert, Herman, Ernestina, Helen, Minnie, Emma and Clara; Minnie is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Schmoker were the parents of seven children, the living ones as follows: Paul, born March 3, 1884, now working the home farm; Clara, born February 23, 1885, who is the wife of Joe Schurhammer; William, born July 9, 1888, who owns a farm in Greenfield Township; Ralph, born July 15, 1894, of Indiana; Earl, born October 17, 1896, of Kellogg; and Vernie, born September 30, 1904. Vernie resides on the home farm. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

**John N. Murdoch**, the first city attorney of Wabasha, for many years one of the leading members of the bar of the county, and one of this city's early journalists, was a native of New England, having been born in Winchendon, Mass., September 23, 1831. He was graduated from Brown University, at Providence, R. I., in the class of 1852, being then in his twenty-first year, and



soon afterwards cast his first presidential vote, which was for John P. Hale, of Massachusetts, the freesoil candidate in 1852. In 1854 he was graduated from the Albany Law School, at Albany, N. Y. Having decided to seek his fortune in the Northwest, he came immediately to St. Paul, Minn. Though he resided there but a year, his ability and the strength of his character were recognized by his fellow citizens, and in March, 1855, he was sent as a delegate to the convention that was held at St. Anthony (now Minneapolis) to organize the Republican party in the then territory of Minnesota, and took an active part in its proceedings. To that party he maintained his allegiance to the end of his life. On Sept. 17, 1855, Mr. Murdoch was married to Cynthia A. Baldwin, of Auburn, N. Y., and in the following year he removed with his wife to Red Wing, where their first child, Mary E., was born December 20, 1856. With this child they came in 1857 to Wabasha, where Mr. Murdoch began law practice, establishing an office on Main street. In the following year the city of Wabasha was incorporated and he became the first city attorney. In 1864 Mr. Murdoch headed the electoral ticket, as elector at large, for Lincoln and Johnson. From 1865 to 1867 he traveled in the South, and from 1869 to 1873 was postmaster of Wabasha. He then went to Kansas, where he resided with his family until 1876, but with the two exceptions mentioned his life subsequent to 1857 was spent in Wabasha. In the fall of 1893 Mr. Murdoch took his son, John W., into partnership, and they practiced law together until his retirement in July, 1896. For several years while engaged in his law practice he was more or less connected with the press of the city, having charge of the editorial columns of the Wabasha Herald, under Sharpe and Palmer, from 1871 to 1873, and resuming similar duties in April, 1881. His death, which occurred January 21, 1898, deprived the city of Wabasha of one of its leading and most respected citizens whose activities had been closely connected with its progress and development up to that time. Though not a member, he attended with his family the Congregational church of this city. His wife passed away January 16, 1904. To Mr. and Mrs. John N. Murdoch were born four children, Mary E., December 20, 1856; William L., August 12, 1858; Emily T., April 1, 1861; and John Wales, June 22, 1869. Mary E., who is unmarried, is now teaching in the public schools of Duluth. William L. in 1875 entered the employ of the Samuel Cupples Woodenware Co. of St. Louis, Mo., and was with them for many years. He subsequently went to Birmingham, Ala., where he engaged in the brokerage business, which business he is still conducting. Emily T. graduated from Wellesley College, Mass., in the class of 1883, being the first native of Wabasha County to complete a collegiate course. She married D. L. Dawley, superintendent of the Wabasha public schools, and afterwards of the public schools of St. Paul, in which city he took up the practice of law and for years was law editor with the West Publishing Co. there. He died in St. Paul, where his widow is still residing. John Wales Murdoch is now a member of the well known law firm of Murdoch and Lothrop of Wabasha.

**John Wales Murdoch**, who for the last 25 years has been engaged in the practice of law in Wabasha city, and is now a member of the flourishing law firm of Murdoch & Lothrop, was born in this city, June 22, 1869, son of John and Cynthia (Baldwin) Murdoch. His elementary education was acquired in the public schools of Wabasha. In 1883 he entered Carleton College at Northfield, Minn., where he was a student for three years. Then, at the age of 19, he went to Duluth, where for two years he was in the employ of the Wells-Stone Mercantile Company, dealers in hardware. Returning to Wabasha in 1888, he remained at home until the fall of 1890, when he entered the law department of Michigan University at Ann Arbor, Mich., and was graduated therefrom in the class of 1893. In the fall of that year he was admitted to the bar of Minnesota, and entered into partnership with his father, John N. Murdoch, under the firm name of Murdoch & Murdoch. This partnership was continued until July, 1896, when the father retired and the son became asso-



ciated with John F. McGovern in the firm of McGovern & Murdoch. The latter partnership was terminated by the death of Mr. McGovern on February 5, 1905, and John W. Murdoch subsequently practiced alone until May 1, 1916, when he became associated as a law partner with Hugh L. Lothrop of Mazeppa, and they have since carried on business under the style of Murdoch & Lothrop, occupying the same offices that Mr. Murdoch's father occupied many years ago. The firm is a leading one in this section, having a large clientele, and Mr. Murdoch has personally gained a high reputation as an able lawyer. In politics he is a Republican. For several years he served as city attorney of Wabasha. For a number of years he has been secretary of special school district No. 1. He owns his own home in Wabasha, and also a cottage at Minneowah, just below Winona, where he and his family spend the summers, having been a member since 1902 of the Minneowah Club of Winona. His fraternal society affiliations are with Wapahassa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha, and Rose Croix Lodge of Winona. During the recent period of war activities he served as government appeal agent for Wabasha County, also as chairman of the legal advisory board and was active in every phase of patriotic work. On September 22, 1898, Mr. Murdoch was united in marriage with Marie Lydia, daughter of John G. and Wilhelmina Klampe Bleifuss, of Olmsted County, Minnesota. For several years previous to her marriage Mrs. Murdoch taught in the public schools of Wabasha city. She is active in women's club work in this city and in various parts of the state, being president of the Wabasha Club, also of the women's clubs of the First Congressional District in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch have three children: Helen K., born February 10, 1900; George B., born February 22, 1902; and Cynthia M., March 12, 1907. Helen K. and George B. are graduates of the Wabasha High School, and the former is now a student at Carleton College, Northfield; the latter a student at the University of Minnesota. The Congregational church of Wabasha numbers Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch among its active members, and for a number of years he has served it as trustee and treasurer.

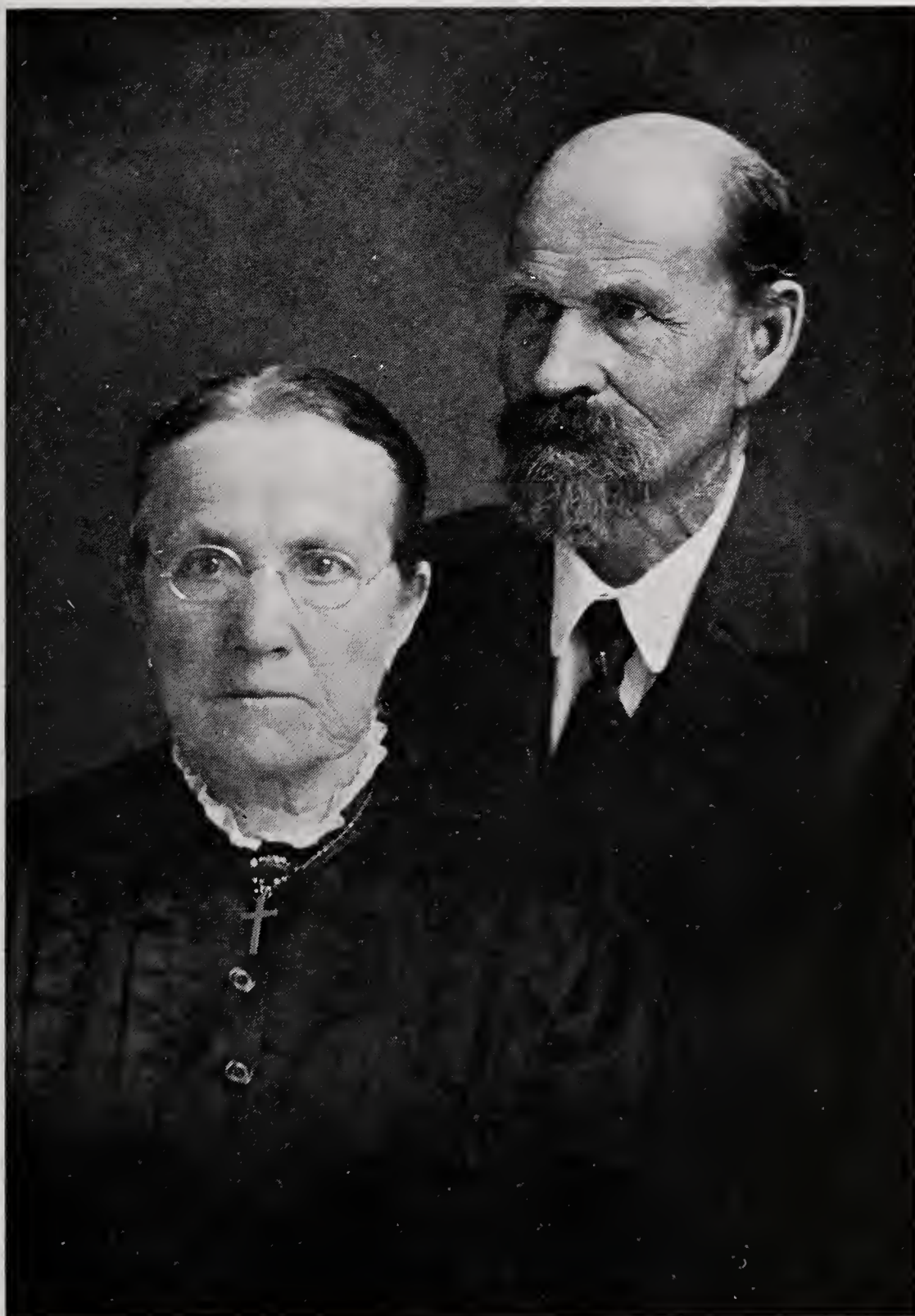
**Baltz Meyer**, a pioneer of Wabasha County, now deceased, was a native of Germany, where he spent his early years, and on beginning industrial life worked for six dollars, one pair of wooden shoes and one suit of overalls as yearly salary. How he accumulated sufficient money to pay his expenses to the United States is a matter for conjecture, but in some way he got here, landing in New York with two dollars in his pocket. This was not a very munificent sum for a young man to begin life with in a strange country, and speaking a foreign language, but in some way he got along and in course of time married, for a while making his home in Columbus, Ohio. In 1857 he came farther west, locating on a 40-acre farm near Dubuque, Iowa. It was not a desirable location, as the soil was full of stones and rocks, but he remained there six or seven years, at the end of which time he sold out and came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, buying 120 acres of wild grub land in Pepin Township, 40 of which were located in section 20 and 80 in section 29. There was a small log house and a shack for a barn. He and his wife, Mary Catherine, had then three children, William, John F. and Mary, who soon learned to make themselves useful, the two sons breaking the land with an ox team, John F. and William driving, while the father held the plow. Many acres were thus broken, and after two years the log house was replaced by a better structure, and other buildings erected. Other land was also purchased and developed, including the Matt Koenig farm of 122 acres in section 29, which was purchased in 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer resided on the home place until their death, Mrs. Meyer passing away on February 19, 1888, and Mr. Meyer March 14, 1900. They were worthy people and highly respected. Their two sons are both farming in Pepin Township on different parts of the family estate. William in section 20, and John F. in section 29. The daughter Mary married Bernard Henry Welp and settled near the old home. Her husband died at the age of 25, leaving her with five children, and she has since developed the farm and kept her family together.



**John F. Meyer**, a retired farmer residing in Wabasha city, comes of an old pioneer family of this county, and has himself contributed to its agricultural development. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 26, 1849, son of Baltz and Mary Catherine Meyer. When a boy he accompanied his parents to a farm near Dubuque, Iowa, and in 1864 to Wabasha County, Minnesota, the family settling on a farm in Pepin Township, situated partly in section 20 and partly in section 29. He and his brother William helped their father to develop the home farm. In 1872 the father purchased the Matt Koenig improved farm of 122 acres in section 29, on which was a small log house and a few other buildings. Of this place John F. subsequently became the owner and made some notable improvements on it, building a good frame house, which he remodeled in 1912 into a modern structure of nine rooms. He also built a barn, 36 by 48 by 16 feet, with full basement, together with corn cribs and a blacksmith shop. There he followed general farming until 1911, when he turned the active management of the place over to his son Jacob, but continued to reside thereon until June 26, 1913, at which time he moved to Wabasha city, where he owns a good residence. During his active career he made a reputation as a capable general farmer and was esteemed as a good neighbor and reliable citizen. In the fall of 1919 he sold the farm, the soil of which is productive and produces excellent grain. Mr. Meyer was married, June 2, 1872, to Magdalena Baker, daughter of John and Susan Baker, of Glasgow Township, her parents being farmers in Trout Creek Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have been the parents of eight children: Henry, born March 23, 1875, who is a farmer at Zumbro Falls, this county; Mary, born October 8, 1876, who is residing at home; Jacob, born September 7, 1878, now living retired in Lake City; Catherine, born May 6, 1881, who married Henry Kramer, of Ledgerwood, N. D., and died September 24, 1911; Margaret, born September 27, 1885, now Mrs. Ray Madden, of St. Paul; Peter, born September 19, 1883, who is a telegraph operator at Hastings, Minn.; Susan, born August 9, 1888, is a reporter in the Leader office at Wabasha; Della, born April 20, 1892, is the wife of Fred Schmidt, of Lake City. Mrs. John F. Meyer, who is still living, was born in Germany May 1, 1850, and came to the United States with her parents when a young woman. Mr. Meyer is a Democrat in politics, though not a strong party man. He served as treasurer of Pepin Township for a number of years and was for some time a member of the town board. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and of St. Felix parish.

**Marquis Hendricks**, of Greenfield Township, one of the early settlers of Wabasha County, with a Civil War record, was born in Illinois, March 20, 1840, son of Coleman and Clarice (Shurtlauf) Hendricks. The parents were natives of Virginia, who removed to Illinois, and later to Wabasha County, Minnesota, taking a farm in Cook's Valley, where they made their home until death, the father passing away in 1880 and the mother in 1890. Their son Marquis attended school in Illinois and later in Wabasha village and his early industrial years were spent in assisting his father. He then worked for ten years on the Mississippi river. After the breaking out of the Civil War he joined the First Minnesota Regiment, enlisting in Co. I in 1861, and was the first to enlist from Wabasha and the sixth from the county, and for four years was an active participant in the great conflict between North and South. The war over, in 1866 he turned his attention to farming, buying 100 acres on Sand Prairie. In 1876 he sold that farm and moved to Wabasha village, where he engaged in teaming. Then, in 1883 he bought 56 acres in section 2, Greenfield Township, on which he erected buildings and fences, and engaged in mixed farming and stock raising. On this farm Mr. Hendricks is still residing, one of the best known and respected citizens of his township. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Congregational church. Mr. Hendricks was married January 1, 1865, to Asenath Hitt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Hitt. Her parents were born in this county and lived for a number of years in Greenfield





MR. AND MRS. JOHN F. MEYER







Township, their last years, however, being spent in Kellogg, where both died. To Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks nine children were born, Lillie, Charles, Gertrude, Arthur, Clara, Mary, Bessie, Julia and Frederick. Julia is now deceased.

**Peter O. Palmer**, a prosperous member of the agricultural class in Lake Township, is a man who has built up his own fortune through industry and perseverance. He was born in Landskrona, Sweden, February 17, 1867, son of Olaf and Elna (Pearson) Olson, and was educated in the common schools of his native land. His parents being poor, he had to begin industrial life at an early age, herding pigs, sheep and geese in the summer and attending school in the winter. At the age of 17 he enlisted in the Regular Army and afterwards he continued military training for three or four weeks annually. In accordance with military requirement he had to take a new name as a soldier, and the name Palmer was given to him, one which he has since retained. In 1889, at the age of 21, having received an honorable discharge, he resolved to better himself by emigrating to America, and accordingly set out, landed at New York, and came direct to Wabasha County, where his brother, Olaf Olson, who had three years before preceded him to this country, was living. During his first year in this county he worked as a farm hand in Lake Township. Then in the spring of 1890 he went to Minneapolis, where for four years he was employed as a common laborer. Having returned to Lake Township, in this county, in 1894, he rented 80 acres of land and began farming. He remained at his first location but four years, and then in 1898 came to his present place, known as the Charles Crawshan farm, in section 21, a farm containing 220 acres, of which 200 are now under the plow. Here he has demonstrated his ability as a man of action, with a good knowledge of agriculture, raising abundant crops, keeping good stock, and having an adequate equipment of modern tools and machinery, including a good touring car. His success has been commensurate with his efforts, and each year sees him farther advanced. He is an American citizen, both naturalized and in spirit, and is politically aligned with the Democrat party, though he exercises independent judgment in casting his vote, on particular occasions favoring the best candidate regardless of party. Mr. Palmer was married early in 1890, to Maria, daughter of Per and Anna Mary (Shuberg) Swensen, and a native of Sweden, who was born October 29, 1862, and came to America on the same boat and at the same time as her husband. Four children have been born to them: Mabel Edith, October 17, 1890; Oscar William, December 29, 1891; Elsie Olivia, January 11, 1896; and Carl Harry, September 4, 1897. Mabel Edith is the wife of Menno Kobs, a machinist of Minneapolis, and has two children, Virginia Mary and Palmer William. Oscar William is working on the home farm with his father. Elsie Olivia was married, October 11, 1916, to Edwin Bade, of Lake Township, and has three children, Mary, Eleanor Agnes and Agnes. Carl Harry is residing on the home farm. Mr. Palmer is a member of the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Brotherhood of America. He was reared a Lutheran, as also was his wife, and their children have all been christened in the Swedish Lutheran church at Lake City.

**Herman J. McDowell**, proprietor of one of the old improved farms in Lake Township, situated in section 25, which he is cultivating with satisfactory financial results, was born in Chicago, Ill., on the site of the present Board of Trade building, May 11, 1880, son of Bernard and Elizabeth (Bishop) McDowell. The parents were respectively of Scotch and Irish descent, but both were born in New York State. They located in Chicago in 1847, and have since remained residents of that city, witnessing its wonderful growth, its partial destruction by fire in 1871, another disastrous fire in 1874, its rebuilding and extension, with many other historic developments. Bernard McDowell was for over 50 years an employee in the baggage department of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad and is now on the pension list of that road, retired, but still hale and hearty. Herman J. McDowell was the only child of his par-



ents. The family being Catholics, he attended the parochial school, and in 1896 was graduated from the commercial department of De La Salle Institute. With this equipment he became bookkeeper for Quinn Bros., wholesale plumbers at the corner of Twenty-ninth and Cottage Grove Avenue. Later he became private secretary to the secretary of the Knickerbocker Ice Company, Chicago, and was promoted to city salesman for the building material which they handled, remaining with them for a year and a half. In 1899 Mr. McDowell entered the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad as clerk in the baggage department. He was later promoted to the position of express messenger and remained with the company until 1912. In that year he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and engaged in his present occupation of farming, buying his present farm of 125 acres in section 25, Lake Township, five and a half miles southeast of Lake City. This proved a wise move, as he has made good in an independent and paying business, to which he has shown himself well adapted. He does general farming, breeding Ayrshire cattle and Poland-China hogs, and has greatly improved his farm, which is very productive. His ability and force of character have been recognized by his fellow citizens, and he is serving as a member of the town board and as justice of the peace. On October 8, 1912, Mr. McDowell was united in marriage with Theresa, daughter of John and Mary Koob, of Pepin Township. He and his wife are the parents of a daughter, Marcella Marie, who was born November 30, 1913.

**Charles Grobe**, one of the self-made men of Wabasha County, who from an humble beginning, has by long continued industry attained affluence, and is now one of the leading citizens of West Albany Township, residing on a farm in section 17, was born in Hanover, Germany, January 24, 1863. His parents were August and Johanna (Weidenmeier) Grobe, the father being a small farmer. In his boyhood Charles Grobe attended common school up to the age of 14 years. At 15 he began to learn the shoemaker's trade and worked at it subsequently for five years. In 1883, at the age of 20, he came to America and prolonging his westward journey to Minnesota, finally arrived in West Albany Township, this county, where he had an uncle. He at once became connected with the agricultural industry, finding employment as a farm hand with William Heinz, for whom he worked four years, and later with Joseph Benz, in whose employ he remained six years. During those ten years of steady work he never lost a day, and the money he earned, except what he paid out for necessities, was carefully saved to form a basis of capital for future independent operations. At last the time came when he felt able to branch out on his own account, and in order to do so more effectually, he wisely resolved to take a partner, for better or for worse, in the strenuous pursuit of fortune. Love directed his choice, and on September 26, 1892, he was united in marriage with Eda Bertha Frank, daughter of Charles and Julia Frank, of West Albany. She was born in Germany, January 17, 1874, and came to America at the age of 18 years with her brother Theodore, her father and another brother, Charles, having preceded them to this country. Mr. and Mrs. Grobe began home making on a farm belonging to Joseph Benz, in section 17, West Albany Township, which they rented for five years. Economy was carefully practiced by the young couple and both worked hard and, as a result, made progress. In 1897 Mr. Grobe bought the Richard Hammond farm of 160 acres in section 8, West Albany, and he and his wife moved onto it. There was a fair set of buildings and 145 acres of the land had been broken. Mr. Grobe grubbed twelve acres, remodeled the house, built a frame barn, 36 by 76 by 14 feet, with full basement of 9 feet, and a machine shed, besides making other improvements from time to time, as they were needed. On that farm he resided with his family for 20 years, the end of that period finding him well advanced on the road to prosperity. He was already the owner of his present place in section 17, having purchased it of Joseph Benz in 1902. It was only half a mile south of where



he was then living, and was a farm of 297 acres, with 200 under the plow, and with a fair set of buildings. On moving to it in 1917, he leased the Hammond farm to his son William, and his main efforts both since then and previously, have been to develop the larger property. This he has done very effectually, having remodeled the house, now a modern, nine-room, two-story frame structure; built a frame barn, 36 by 80 by 14 feet, with full basement of 8 feet, cement floors, steel stanchions, and running water; and also put up granaries, machine sheds, and a steel windmill, with the result of making it one of the finest and best equipped farms in this locality. In addition to this, he owns and operates a large threshing outfit, and is the owner of a 300-acre farm near Millville, in Oakwood Township. This latter farm, 160 acres of which are under the plow, and which has a fair set of buildings, he rents out to a tenant. Since selling 160 acres to his son William, he has bought another 160-acre tract near Jacksonville, known as the Christ Hyde farm. On his own place Mr. Grobe is engaged in diversified farming, keeping good stock, his cattle, of the Shorthorn variety, numbering from 60 to 70 head. He has led a regular life, has shunned the saloon, and refrained even from tobacco, conserving his energies for the main duties of life, and in their full and exact performance has found no need for either stimulants or narcotics. He and his family are members of the West Albany congregation of the German M. E. church, of which he is a trustee. Throughout the 27 years of their married life he and his wife have worked together, and are now enjoying the results of the mutual labors. They have a high standing in the community, and have brought up their children in habits of industry, morality and religious observance. These children are as follows: William Carl, born September 15, 1893, who operates one of his father's farms, on rental which he bought in 1920, was married November 10, 1917, to Ella Fick, daughter of William and Christina Fick. He has one child, Ruth, born August 13, 1918. Vanda Alfrida, born February 2, 1896, as yet unmarried, is a trained nurse. She graduated from the Dorcas Institute at Cincinnati, then entered the Berthesda Hospital where she remained eleven months, and on account of sickness returned to her home, remaining nine months, then entered the Lake City Hospital, remaining there one and a half years; then entered the Minneapolis General Hospital where she graduated June 2, 1920. Charles John, born February 26, 1899, and Alfred Gothard, born July 15, 1903, are associated with their father in agricultural work. Florence Julia and Frances Johanna (twins), born August 22, 1904, are attending school.

**Thomas Harney**, who is well remembered by the old and middle-aged residents of Lake Township, was in certain respects a remarkable man, one who conquered the favors of fortune to a greater extent than most of his contemporaries in this region, and who, beginning with nothing, acquired wealth beyond his early dreams through innate force of character. He was born in Waterford, Ireland, April 4, 1833, and had good educational advantage which doubtless sharpened his wits and increased his natural capacity. Dissatisfied with the limited opportunities afforded him in his native land, he resolved to seek advancement in the Land of the Free, and in 1850, with a sister, Catherine, he took passage in a sailing vessel, and some weeks later landed in New York. For five years he remained in the East, then in 1855 he followed the *Star of Empire* westward, and arrived in Rochester, Minnesota, when there were only three houses there, and about three weeks in advance of Patrick Rahilly. There he bought land and remained until 1861. Then he made an exchange of land with a brother of Mr. Rahilly who had located in Lake Township, Wabasha County, and came here to live. The land was new and wild, but he began improvements, and for some years led a bachelor's life. Then, in 1867, he married Elizabeth Doley of Rochester and they began domestic life on the farm. At times he worked out for very low wages, but he spent less than he earned and got along. His ruling passion was the acquisition of land: He bought, sold and traded it at every opportunity, and is said to have owned at one time or



another nearly every foot of land in Lake Township. One of his early ventures was the purchase of 80 acres of wild land in section 31, where he established his home, and on which he erected a fine two-story frame house and other good buildings, also grubbing and clearing the land and converting it into a fine farm. There he resided until a few years before his death, those last years being spent in Rochester where he owned a good house. He passed away in 1909, at which time his wealth was rated at \$250,000. His wife survived him several years, dying in Rochester in 1912. They were both faithful members of the Catholic church. Their family numbered ten children: John, now living in Los Angeles, Cal.; Mary, wife of John O'Connell, a farmer of Benson County, N. D.; Jerry, who is farming near Millville, Wabasha County, Minn.; Thomas, deceased; James, a farmer in Benson County, N. D.; Catherine, now Mrs. Thomas Lawler of Rochester, Minn.; Daniel, a prosperous farmer and land owner, residing in Lake Township; Elizabeth, a resident of Rochester; William, a banker in Benson County, N. D.; and Ambrose, who is also a resident of Benson County, N. D. The children, like their parents, are all Catholics.

**Daniel Harney**, a farmer and considerable land owner residing in section 31, Lake Township, was born in section 29, this township, February 28, 1873, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Doley) Harney. His education was acquired at intervals in the district school and his agricultural training on the home farm under his father's direction. In 1899 he came into possession of the property, and now owns 700 acres in Lake Township, besides having large land possessions in North Dakota and Saskatchewan and Alberta, Canada. He is farming on an extensive scale, breeding pure-blooded shire horses, Shorthorn Durham and Poll Angus cattle, Poland-China hogs, and Shropshire sheep, having large herds of each. He has a good modern equipment and is numbered among the most prosperous men in Lake Township. Formerly a Democrat in politics, Mr. Harney is now a member of the Non-Partisan League. He has served in all the town offices and for a number of years has been clerk of the school board. In religion he is a Catholic, and a member of St. Mary's parish, Lake City.

**Henry Fick**, for many years a successful farmer of Wabasha County, was born in Mecklenberg, Germany, October 19, 1849. At the age of seven years he came to America with his parents, who settled first at Galena, Ill. There the family remained one year, at the end of which time they came to Wabasha County, and homesteaded 160 acres of wild land in West Albany Township. There they underwent many of the hardships of pioneer life, breaking their land with the aid of a yoke of oxen, living the first years on corn, potatoes and bacon, and working hard to establish for themselves a home in the wilderness. Under these conditions young Henry grew up, picking up a little schooling as he found opportunity, and working the parental acres with his father until reaching the age of 24. He then began an independent career, buying a tract of 80 acres in West Albany Township, near the old home, and about the same time, or in October, 1873, he married Sophia, daughter of Gottlieb and Dora Schmidt, of West Albany. Her parents had come with their family directly from Germany to West Albany Township, this county, and had likewise endured many hardships in establishing themselves here. Mr. and Mrs. Fick lived about ten years on their original farm, at the end of which time Mr. Fick sold the place to his father, and bought 160 acres in Lake Township, section 34. There they farmed for about 29 years, or until 1912, by hard work and frugality developing their property and acquiring a competence. Then they removed to Lake City, where they resided until 1916, retired. In the year last mentioned they bought a farm near Lockhart, Minn., and are now living there with their son Henry, enjoying the fruits of their former labors. Mr. and Mrs. Fick are the parents of children, Edward, Fred C., Minnie, Henry, Alfred, Mattie and Mabel. Edward, born April 16, 1875, is now on the farm at Lockhart. Fred C., born May 16, 1877, is in the automobile repair business at Lake City. Min-



nie, born March 24, 1879, is the wife of Anthony Lang, of Lake City. Henry, born May 9, 1881, is operating the farm at Lockhart. Alfred, born July 31, 1884, is a resident of Lake City. Mattie, born February 2, 1891, is residing at Lockhart. Mabel, born July 17, 1895, is the wife of Peter Pauley, of Austin, Minn. Mr. Fick is a Republican in politics, and for a number of years served Lake Township as clerk. He and his wife are German Lutherans in religion, and were formerly members of St. John's congregation at Lake City, which he served as trustee. They now belong to the congregation at Lockhart.

Fred C. Fick, who is doing an extensive business in automobile repairing in Lake City, was born in West Albany Township, this county, May 16, 1877, son of Henry and Sophia (Schmidt) Fick, and a grandson on both sides of Wabasha County pioneers. He was reared in Lake Township, to which his parents moved when he was an infant. There he attended school, and as a young man was employed at farm work, both at home and among the neighboring farmers. In 1900 he established a well-drilling business, and in 1902 came to Lake City as an employe of Bartron & Schmauss, dealers in farm implements. For two years he operated their well-drilling outfit, and then for nearly four years was in their warehouse. In 1908 he purchased the implement business of Wise & Redding at Lake City, and operated this for ten years. In the fall of 1912 he opened the Central Garage on Washington street, where he has built up a big business in automobile repairing. He has worked hard and has built up a big business, and is regarded as one of the substantial men of the city. He has a pleasant home and takes his part in all progressive movements. Mr. Fick was married April 16, 1906, to Margaret Burfiend, daughter of John and Margaret Burfiend, of West Albany Township, and this union has been blessed with one daughter, Dorothy Amelia, born October 19, 1912. The family faith is that of St. John's German Evangelical Lutheran church of Lake City.

Jacob L. Gengnagel, one of the leading merchants of Wabasha city, proprietor of an up-to-date furniture store, and who is also one of the present county commissioners of Wabasha County, was born in this city, September 8, 1875, son of Jacob and Paulina (Affeld) Gengnagel. The father, who was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, in 1832, came to America in 1849, and in Albany, N. Y., learned the furniture-making business. In 1855 he came west to Dubuque, Iowa, from which place in the following year he removed to Wabasha, Minn. As there was then no opening here in his trade, he engaged in carpenter work, and was thus occupied for three years, or until 1859, when he went to New Orleans, where he was living when the Civil War broke out. Having no desire to serve in the Confederate army, he seized an early opportunity and on June 30, 1862, enlisted in Company L, Third Massachusetts Cavalry, at New Orleans. He was in the service for 18 months, and was finally discharged on account of disability, having received a gunshot wound in his right elbow. In the fall of 1864 he returned to Wabasha, Minn., and established a furniture business on Second street, between Pembroke and Bailey streets, both manufacturing and dealing in furniture. On November 21, 1865, he married Paulina Affeld, of Wabasha, and in a few years a family was growing up around them, the eldest son, Charles, subsequently becoming his father's business partner. In 1895 Jacob Gengnagel bought a farm in Cook's Valley, Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, and moved to it, leaving the furniture business in the hands of his son. After five years on the farm, however, the father returned to Wabasha. In 1900 the business was taken over by his younger son, Jacob L. He died August 26, 1910, being survived by his wife, who is still living. Their children were: Charles, previously mentioned, who is now in the furniture business for himself at Parker's Prairie, Minn.; Katherine, who assists her brother, Jacob L., in the furniture business; Jacob L., subject of this sketch; William, who is now deceased; Dora, and Paulina, who are also deceased. Jacob L. Gengnagel, who was educated in the Wabasha public schools, early became associated with his father in the furniture business, and since becom-

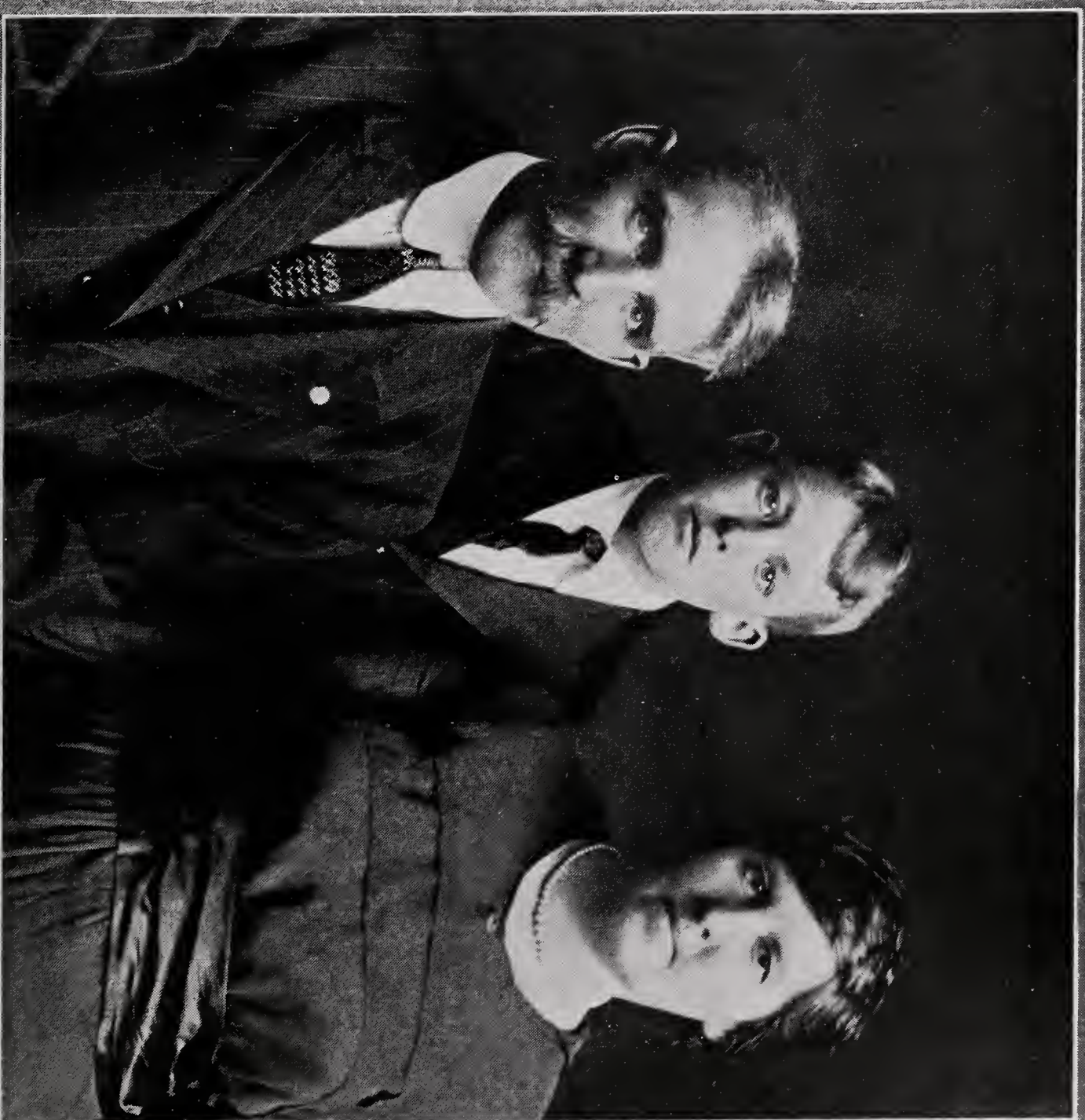


ing proprietor of the store in 1900 has continued to conduct it on a profitable basis. The present store is located on Main street, east of the post office, and is a large and well stocked emporium. Mr. Gengnagel has taken his place among the progressive and successful business men of Wabasha, and is well known through the county. He was elected county commissioner in 1918, taking office January 7, 1919. He was mayor of Wabasha from 1911 to 1916, and previous to that served as county coroner, having thus identified himself in various ways with the public business of his city and county, of which he has been a faithful servant. He is senior warden of Grace Episcopal church of Wabasha, and belongs fraternally to Waupahassa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M.; Teutonia Lodge, No. 19, I. O. O. F.; Wabasha Tribe, No. 27, I. O. R.; and lodge No. 106, A. O. U. W., all of Wabasha.

Lewis G. Graner, proprietor of Pine Ridge Stock Farm, Greenfield Township, was born in this township September 23, 1875. His parents, Henry and Mary (Frye) Graner, were natives of Hanover, Germany, who came to America in 1850, landing in Baltimore, where they remained two years. In 1852 they became pioneers of Minnesota, settling in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, where they bought a homestead right of 160 acres in section 29. Later they purchased 205 acres more, making a total owned by them of 365 acres. They improved the property into a good farm, erecting buildings and fences, and were engaged in farming and stock raising there until the death of Henry Graner on September 4, 1915. Mrs. Graner now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. George Foster of Greenfield. She and her husband were the parents of 11 children, eight of whom are now living, the full list being: Henry, Herman of Kellogg, Elizabeth of Almena, Kans.; Mary, of Greenfield Township; Augusta, of Almena, Kans.; Emma, of Eagan, S. D.; Amelia, of Waukon, Iowa; Lewis G.; William, of Watopa Township; Clara and Edward. The deceased are Henry, Clara and Edward. Lewis G. Graner acquired a district school education in Greenfield Township. He worked for his father on the home farm until 1903, and in that year bought the farm on which he has since remained, and where he is carrying on general farming and stock raising. He gives special attention to stock raising, breeding Shorthorn cattle, and improving his stock by the use of full-blooded sires. His barn is equipped with an Empire milking-machine, and is electrically lighted. For 12 years Mr. Graner served as town clerk of Greenfield Township, and is now serving as clerk of School District No. 28. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Samaritans, and is religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Graner was married October 18, 1904, to Bertha Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Swan Anderson, Sr., of Greenfield Township. Her father, who died August 11, 1888, was in the employ of the C., M. & St. P. railway. Her mother is now living in the village of Kellogg. They were also members of the M. E. church. Their children were: Carrie, of Verndale, Minn.; Swan, Jr., of Kellogg; Thomas, of Minneapolis; Emma; Allen, of Superior, Wis.; Bertha; William, of Minneapolis, and John. Mr. and Mrs. Graner are the parents of one child, John L., who was born November 6, 1909.

Henry E. Bade, a man who took a worthy part in the development of Wabasha County along agricultural lines, was born in Galena, Ill., July 6, 1863, son of Louis H. and Sophia (Haase) Bade. The father, Louis H. Bade, was born in the German state of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, January 28, 1836, and was the son of a farmer. He attended school in Germany, and at the age of 17 began an apprenticeship to the wagonmaker's trade, at which he subsequently worked as a journeyman. In October, 1859, he came to the United States and remained here for over two years, going back to Germany on a visit in the spring of 1861. There he was married in March, that year, to Sophia Haase, a native of the same part of Germany as himself, and in 1862 he returned to the United States, accompanied by his wife, and located in Galena, Ill. When their





I. C. GRANER AND FAMILY

MR. AND MRS. J. HENRY GRANER

MR. AND MRS. SWAN ANDERSON

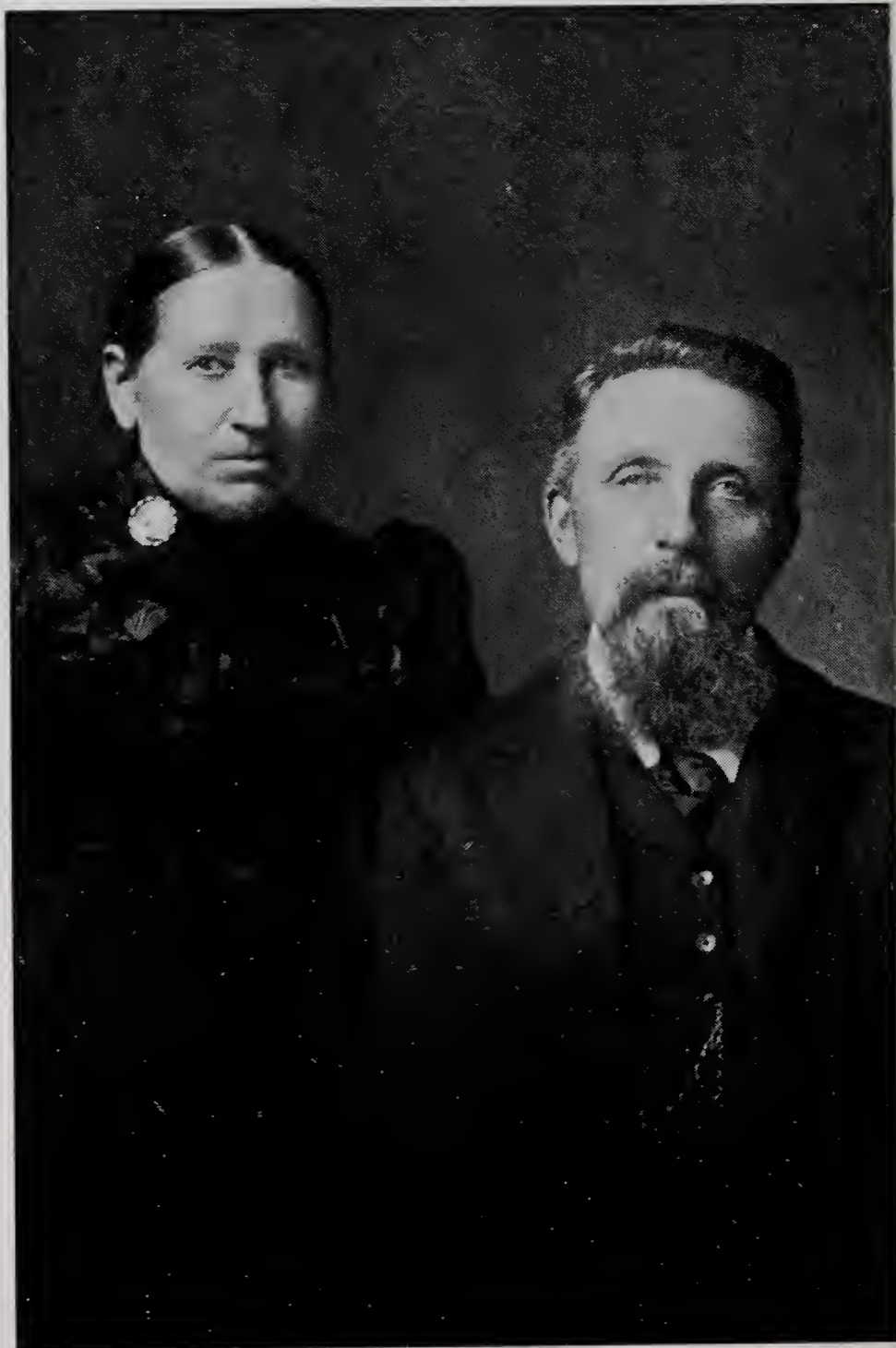












MR. AND MRS. LOUIS BADE



first child, Henry E., was two years old, the family came to Wabasha County, Minn., and rented the John Haase farm in West Albany Township. They had practically no money, but were energetic and industrious, and with the aid of an ox team they operated that farm for two years. They then bought 160 acres of wild land in West Albany Township, built a log house, and some pole shacks for stock, and grubbed and cleared the land, and it was on that farm that Henry E. was reared to the age of 11. Then in 1874 Louis H. Bade sold the place and bought 340 acres of partly improved land, though mostly bluff, in section 36, Lake Township, not far from his first place. Here he built a comfortable frame house, a barn, and other necessary structures, residing on the place until 1905, when he retired and moved to Lake City, where he is now living at the age of 83 years, and in good health except for a lameness resulting from a broken hip which he sustained in 1917, which obliges him to use a crutch and cane. His wife died January 1, 1915. They had six children: Henry E., whose name forms the caption of this sketch; Edward, who was killed in an Idaho mine; Louis, now in Big Timber, Mont.; Amelia, wife of Fred Lange, of Lake City; Frederick, a farmer in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, and Augusta, who married James Warner of Lake City and is now deceased. After his father left the farm, Henry E. Bade took up its operation, having previously worked on it since his boyhood, and during his career as its active proprietor he made many valuable improvements, including the erection of substantial buildings for every branch of the farm work. At last his health began to fail and for three years he became more and more of an invalid, until he finally passed away April 15, 1914. He had continued to work until three days before his demise. Henry E. Bade was of quiet and retiring disposition, industrious and upright, and was a man highly respected. He was a director in the Wabasha County Fire Insurance Company, and served for some years as township clerk. He was married November 19, 1891, to Adeline Haase, who was born in West Albany Township, this county, October 21, 1870, daughter of John and Wilhelmina (Lang) Haase. Of this union three children were born: Edwin W., born November 14, 1893, now operating the home farm; Luella, born May 14, 1896, who is the wife of Fred Stahmann of Section 35, Lake Township; and Mabel, born February 15, 1905, who is a student in the Lake City high school. After her husband's death Mrs. Henry E. Bade remained on the farm until 1917, when she took up her residence in Lake City, where she is now managing the home for Louis H. Bade.

**Edwin W. Bade**, a prominent farmer of Lake Township, was born in section 36, this township, November 14, 1893, son of Henry E. and Adeline (Haase) Bade. His education was acquired in the district school and he subsequently had a year's training in the Minnesota Agricultural College, which added to the knowledge he had already gained in practical farm work while associated with his father. After the father's death in April, 1914, the entire management of the home farm fell into his hands, and he has since operated it on a profitable basis, his mother for a while keeping house for him. This is one of the best farms in the northern part of the county and contains 327 acres, of which 240 are in Lake Township and the remainder in West Albany Township. Two hundred and forty acres are under the plow, and the farm is well stocked with Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine. The residence is a two-story modern frame house, consisting of an upright and wing, and the farm buildings include a frame barn 40 by 80 by 18 feet, with a full basement of 9 feet and cement floor; a granary 24 by 36 by 10, containing an elevator; a buggy shed, engine house, machine shed, and well house, and new 32 by 20 hog house, all substantial structures, most of which were erected by himself and his father. The house contains nine rooms, including bath and toilet; is wired for electric light, and furnished with hot and cold water. Mr. Bade's equipment includes a five-passenger auto car. Enterprising and industrious, he is making good progress, having a fine record behind him which he is trying to excel. Polit-



ically he is a member of the Non-Partisan League. Mr. Bade was married in 1916 to Elsie, daughter of Peter and Mary Palmer, of Lake Township, and he and his wife are the parents of three children: Mildred Adeline Mary, born May 3, 1917; Elenore Agnes, born May 13, 1918, and Agnes Frances, born June 19, 1919. The family are affiliated religiously with St. John's Lutheran church of Lake City.

**Martin W. Benn**, proprietor of the Benn Hardware Co., of Wabasha, was born near Rollingstone, Winona County, Minn., Feb. 3, 1876, son of Louis and Anna (Rogue) Benn. His parents were farmers, and he was the eldest of five children, the others being: Ferdinand, now a practicing physician in Minneapolis; Helena, now Mrs. Schmidt, of Bemidji, Minn.; Albert, who is traveling auditor for the Great Northern Railway Co., and resides in Vancouver, B. C., and Edward, of Milton, Ore., who is in the United States military service. In 1879 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Benn removed with their family to Cass County, N. D., locating on a farm near Casselton, where they remained until 1894, when the parents moved to Milton, Ore. Martin W., who was only three years old on his arrival in Cass County, subsequently attended school there up to the age of 18 years, and when not engaged with his books assisted his father on the farm. In 1894, instead of accompanying his parents to Oregon, he began to learn the tinner's trade with Herman Strehlow, of Casselton, N. D., and was with him for four years, returning to Minnesota in 1898. In the fall of that year he took employment as tinner with John Tritch, a hardware merchant of Alma, Wis., with whom he remained for about eight years. In September, 1906, Mr. Benn came to Wabasha City and entered the employ of Julius Schmidt, a hardware merchant in the Jewell Block. With him he remained for seven years, or until 1913, when he engaged in the same business for himself on Pembroke street. In 1915 he bought the stock and business of Julius Schmidt, his former employer, and has since operated the concern under the firm name of the Benn Hardware Company, dealing in general hardware, and also doing plumbing and tinsmith work. A master of his trade, he is enjoying a good patronage and increasing in prosperity. For some years he has served as chief of the Wabasha Fire Department. Politically he is a Republican, while his fraternal affiliations are with White Oak Camp, No. 2077, M. W. A., and the Equitable Fraternal Union, both of Wabasha. Mr. Benn was married in September, 1896, to Catherine, daughter of Michael Damm, of Buffalo City, Buffalo County, Wis., where she was born August 24, 1876.

**Eugene S. Churchill**, who was for a number of years a prosperous farmer and business man of Wabasha County, was born in Freeport, Ill., of Scotch and Dutch ancestry. He came to Wabasha County, Minn., about 1880, and for some time was engaged in furnishing brush to the government for dams on the Mississippi river, doing the work under contract. After a while he bought 360 acres of land in Greenfield Township, and began farming, erecting a good set of buildings and developing his land. While so doing he still did a little contract work occasionally. In 1908 he rented the farm to a tenant and moved to Wabasha city, where he engaged in business, and where his death occurred November 6, 1912. He had had a successful career, beginning with nothing and acquiring a competence through his own efforts. As a man and citizen he stood high in the estimation of his neighbors. Mr. Churchill married Emma Brown, who was born in Pepin, Wis., in 1852, of German parentage, and who is still living in Wabasha. They had five children: A son who died in infancy; Walter, born in 1885, now deceased; Warren G., a prominent business man of Wabasha city; Anna, born March 24, 1892, now Mrs. W. S. Johnson, of Trout Valley, this county; and Reta, born June 17, 1896, who is a nurse in the Wabasha Sanitorium.

**Warren G. Churchill**, a well known business man of Wabasha City, where he is engaged in the jewelry and piano business, was born on a farm in Greenfield Township, this county, September 26, 1888, son of Eugene S. and Emma









MR. AND MRS. JOHN L. FUNKE



(Brown) Churchill. He was reared on his parents' farm and educated in the district school, which he attended up to the age of 15. He then attended the graded school at Kellogg, from which he was graduated, and later entered the Brandrup & Nettleton Business College at Winona, which he attended for five months. He then entered the employ of Beinhorn & Meier, Winona, to learn the jeweler's trade, remaining with that concern for two years and a half. After that he took a position with the jewelry firm of Blickel Bros., of Rochester, Minn. On November 2, 1911, he started in business for himself in Wabasha, renting space for a jeweler's bench and a showcase from E. B. Kenefec. This venture met with success, and on August 17, 1912, Mr. Churchill bought out the stock and business of Charles Tryon, on Pembroke street, Wabasha, which he has since developed into a large business, having a well equipped store. He has also extended his operations to include a line of musical goods, selling Edison phonographs, Raden-Bush pianos, Waltham player pianos and the Starr player pianos, in all of which he has developed a good trade covering a large territory in this section of the country. His enterprise and square business methods have made him popular, and he is now serving as president of the local commercial club, known as the Wabasha Boosters' Club. Politically he is a Republican, but places the man above the party, reserving his right to vote for any candidate whom he esteems most worthy of office. Mr. Churchill assumed the responsibilities of domestic life on February 11, 1918, when he was united in marriage with Eva Dorothy, daughter of John and Katherine Schmidt, of Wabasha City, of which place she is a native. Mr. and Mrs. Churchill are members of St. Felix Catholic parish, and are popular members of society here.

**Nicholas Funke**, an early settler of Glasgow Township, was born in Germany, and there married Catherine Leirsch. For some years he was an itinerant salesman, traveling from place to place with his wares. In 1858 he and his wife determined to better their fortunes in the New World. Accordingly they set sail, landed at New York, took the railroad to Dubuque, Ia., and from there boarded a ship to Reed's Landing, in Wabasha County. Proceeding ten miles south of Reed's Landing, they secured 160 acres of wild land in Glasgow Township. This was in 1858. They built a small log house, and with the help of a yoke of oxen, started to break the land. Here they underwent all the hardships of pioneer life, sometimes being almost without food. The trading point was at Reed's Landing, from which Mr. Funke often brought provisions on his back. Gradually the farm was improved, good buildings were erected, and the family prospered. In 1893 they disposed of the place to the son, John L., and moved to Wabasha, where they died, Nicholas Funke in the spring of 1902, and his wife in the winter of 1906. They were the parents of nine children, all born in Glasgow Township: Rose, John L., George (first), George (second), Anna, Joseph, Clara, Louis, Clarence. Rose is the wife of Michael Jacoby, now deceased, and lives at Duluth, Minn. John L. farms on the outskirts of Wabasha. The first George died in early infancy and the second at the age of three years. Anna, Joseph and Clara are dead. Louis is a bank cashier living at St. Leo, Minn. Clarence is dead.

**John L. Funke**, who is farming on the outskirts of Wabasha, was born in Glasgow Township, this county, April 23, 1861, son of Nicholas and Catherine (Leirsch) Funke. He was reared on the home farm and attained such education as he could, being the oldest boy in the family it was necessary for him to help his parents in the summer, and in the winter it was often impossible for him to get to the school which was three miles away. In 1883 he came to Wabasha, and clerked in the store of his brother-in-law, Michael Jacoby, but in less than two years returned to the farm. Upon his parents' retirement in 1893 he took entire charge of the place and in time became its owner. He was most successful in his farming operations, and by careful saving and shrewd buying, he was able in time to acquire 1,100 acres, all in one tract.



In addition to carrying on his farm, he also operated a portable sawmill. But his strenuous work impaired his health, and he was on the verge of a complete breakdown. He was advised by physicians to seek another climate for the benefit of his health. But feeling that his ailment was simply a case of his being tired out, he decided that a comparative rest would do him as much good as a change of climate. Accordingly in 1903, he purchased forty acres on the outskirts of Wabasha. Gradually his health improved, and as he increased in strength, he increased his farming operations, and added to the tract until he had 240 acres. This he farmed until January, 1916, when he sold 160 acres to his son-in-law, Louis Nipp, leaving himself eighty acres, to this he has added by additional purchases until he has 107 acres. In 1918 he rebuilt the house, so that he now has a modern nine-room dwelling, finished in stucco, and well arranged. He now carries on general farming, raising the usual crops, and breeding good graded cattle, swine and poultry. He and his good wife stand well in the community. They have worked hard, have done their share in life, and reaped industry's just reward. Mr. Funke was married April 23, 1890, to Theresa Graden, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret Graden, of Pepin Township, this county. She was born November 3, 1869. This union has been blessed with three children, Veronica, Rose and Elizabeth. Veronica was born January 1, 1891, graduated from the St. Felix high school at Wabasha and the Winona State Normal School, taught eighth grade studies for eight years, and is now the wife of Louis Nipp, a Wabasha farmer, and has one son John H. Rose was born May 25, 1892, graduated from the St. Felix high school at Wabasha, and the Stout Institute, Menomone, Wis., taught domestic science for four years, married Fred Horihan, of Houston County, this state, and has one child, Bernice E. Elizabeth was born July 4, 1893, and graduated from the St. Felix high school at Wabasha, and St. Catherine's College at St. Paul, Minn., and is now a student of Pratt Institute of Brooklyn, N. Y. The family faith is that of St. Felix Catholic Church, Wabasha.

**Sylvester Loechler**, who was for many years one of the leading merchants of Wabasha City, engaged in the clothing and men's furnishing business, was born in Baden, Germany, December 31, 1857, and came to this country with his parents when a small boy, the family settling in Wabasha County, Minn. Here the parents died some years ago. Sylvester Loechler attended the common schools and subsequently learned the tailor's trade with Lawrence Gintner of Wabasha. Ambitious to become his own master, in course of time he established a store of his own, in connection with the tailoring business, putting in a line of clothing and men's furnishings. To perfect himself in his trade he went to New York, where he took a course in a cutting school, completing it January 22, 1890. Then returning to Wabasha, he established a business by himself. Later he became connected in business with Frank Miller, forming the firm of Loechler & Miller, located on Pembroke street, Mr. Loechler owning the two-story brick building. There he continued busily employed until his death on April 6, 1908. His career was marked by industry and enterprise and was crowned with success. He accumulated a fair competency, and owned a comfortable home on the corner of Second and Bailey streets, which is now occupied by his widow. As a man of sterling worth and a citizen who understood and fulfilled his obligations to the community, he was highly esteemed. In politics he was a Democrat, but at no time an office holder. Mr. Loechler was married November 7, 1894, to Mary, daughter of Cornelius and Mary (Ryan) Mahoney of Watopa Township, Wabasha County. She was born on a farm in Greenfield Township, this county, February 21, 1868. Her parents are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Loechler had no children of their own, but reared two children of a sister of Mr. Loechler, William and Clara. William is now living in Seattle, Wash., and his sister Clara in Winnebago City, Minn. After her husband's death Mrs. Loechler



continued the business with Mr. Miller until January 1, 1916, when she sold her interests, and the firm is now Miller & O'Flaherty, located on Pembroke street, opposite the former store. She still owns the Loechler Bldg., which she rents. She is a member of the Catholic church and the Wabasha Woman's Club, and enjoys a wide social popularity.

**Hugh Lawrence Lothrop**, a member of the well known law firm of Murdoch & Lothrop, of Wabasha City, was born on a farm near Zumbrota, Goodhue County, Minn., October 19, 1888, son of Josiah and Sarah (Libby) Lothrop. The paternal grandparents were natives of the state of Massachusetts, who moved to Eaton, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, where for some years they were engaged in farming. There their son, Josiah, was born, and spent his early years. When he was nine years old they sold the farm and returned to Maine, later moved from there to Burns, La Crosse County, Wis., where they settled on a farm, the father (grandfather of Hugh Lawrence) also preaching in the Free Will Baptist church. From Burns, Wis., it was but a brief journey to Goodhue County, Minn., to which locality the grandfather came in 1856, pre-empting 160 acres of land near Zumbrota, the family moving on to the place in 1860. There they developed a good farm on which the grandparents died in 1880 and 1883. Its improvement was continued by Josiah Lothrop until 1908, in which year he retired and took up his residence in Zumbrota Village, where he is now living. They have been the parents of six children: Mary E., wife of James Farrahar, an attorney of Bakersfield, Calif.; Josiah Howard, residing on the old home farm in Goodhue County; Charles E. and Seth W., deceased; Sadie E., who married Orville Freeman of Minneapolis, and is also now deceased; and Hugh Lawrence, of Wabasha. Hugh Lawrence Lothrop acquired his elementary education in the district school, and was afterwards graduated from the graded school and the high school in Zumbrota. In January, 1910, he entered the law department of Minnesota State University, where he was a student for two and one-half years, subsequently reading law in the office of Senator A. J. Rockne of Zumbrota. Admitted to the bar in May, 1913, in the following month he opened an office in Mazeppa, where he practiced his profession until May, 1916, when he entered into partnership with John W. Murdoch of Wabasha. The firm of Murdoch & Lothrop is now well and favorably known, and handles a considerable amount of law business, with satisfaction to its clients. Mr. Lothrop is a close student of his profession, to which he is well adapted by natural bent. He was married August 21, 1917, to Harriet F. Croxford, daughter of William and Ellen Croxford of Zumbrota, where her father is engaged in the lumber business, although she was born in St. Paul, May 21, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Lothrop have one child, Elizabeth Ellen, born August 27, 1918. Mr. Lothrop is a staunch Republican politically. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**William H. Anderson**, proprietor of the Anderson House, at Wabasha, and one of the city's leading citizens, is doing his share toward the general prosperity of the community by conducting an excellent hotel, which by its hospitality and service creates in the minds of strangers a most excellent impression of the whole community. He was born in Rome Township, Oneida County, N. Y., March 12, 1846, son of Levi and Harriett (Carpenter) Anderson. His father dying when he was 12 years, leaving a large family, young William H. went to work when he was 14 and contributed his earnings toward the family support. In 1866 he came west and reached Rochester by rail. From there he set out on foot for Wabasha County, and for several years worked as a farm hand in Zumbro Township. In 1867 he purchased 80 acres of wild land, four miles southeast of Zumbro Falls. He built a small board house, and set to work with a will to clear and develop a good farm. To his original tract he added a 160-acre tract and a 40-acre one, making in all a place of 280 acres. In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Anderson made a



specialty for many years of buying and shipping cattle. In 1896 he retired from farm work and bought the old hotel at Mazeppa, in this county. In 1900 he moved the old building, and on the site erected the present commodious brick-veneered building. In 1913 he sold out, and purchased the old Hurd House, in Wabasha, a pioneer hostelry which had been erected in 1855 by B. F. Hurd, and enlarged and remodelled some years ago by Mr. Hurd's son-in-law, Ziba Goss. This hotel, Mr. Anderson has since conducted, ably assisted by his wife and daughters. He changed the name to the Anderson House, and wrought many improvements and alterations. He is a genial, competent man, of wide acquaintance, and is highly regarded by the traveling public of the Northwest, as well as by the citizens of his own city. In 1915, desiring to establish for his family a home life which even the excellent hotel conditions could not entirely furnish, he erected across from the hotel, one of the most beautiful residences in the city. It is delightfully situated in picturesque grounds on the banks of the Mississippi, and is of much architectural beauty wrought in tile and stucco. The furnishings are tasteful and restful throughout. Here he and his family find peace and contentment away from the strenuous duties of hotel management, and here, in future years, he and his wife plan to spend their declining days. Mr. Anderson was married in 1885 to Ida Hoffman, of Zumbro Township, and this union has been blessed with four children: Ora, Verna, Belle and Effie. Ora died in childhood. Verna married Joseph McCaffery, and has two children, Jean Elizabeth and Ann. Mr. McCaffery for the past 14 years has been in the railroad mail service on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, between St. Paul and Chicago. He and his wife live two blocks from the hotel. The daughters of Mr. Anderson have been given unusual educational advantages, not only in the Wabasha County schools, but also in the College of St. Theresa in Winona. Mr. Anderson has been unusually fortunate in his family life. His wife has been a true helpmeet in all his endeavors, and now takes entire charge of the hotel kitchen. The daughters are competent business managers thoroughly versed in all departments of hotel management, in kitchen, dining room, guest rooms and office. All are interested in church work. Mrs. Anderson and the Misses Belle and Effie are members of the Episcopal church, while Mr. and Mrs. McCaffery are members of the Catholic church. Levi and Harriett (Carpenter) Anderson, parents of William H. Anderson, were natives of this country, of Scotch descent. They were married in Oneida County, N. Y. There Levi Anderson died in 1858. His widow later came west and died in Wabasha County. In the family were seven children, four sons and three daughters: William H., Abram J., Fairfax and Welcome, Minica, Betsy and Phoebe. Abram J. lives in Wabasha County; Fairfax in Carrington, N. D.; and Welcome in Edgerly, N. D., all being prosperous farmers. Minica died in young womanhood. Betsy lives in Sacred Heart, Minn., and is the wife of D. H. Day. Phoebe is the wife of H. W. McGeorge of Washington, D. C. The Anderson House, in Wabasha, owned and managed by William H. Anderson and his family, is a hotel widely known for its excellence. It is well situated and provides most excellent accommodations in every department. Aside from the office, reception rooms, parlors and dining rooms, it has 45 sleeping rooms, is well equipped in the way of baths and the like, and everything possible is done for the comfort of the guests.

**John Q. Richardson**, pioneer, for nearly 34 years a prominent farmer of Elgin Township, and afterwards until his death a resident of Elgin Village, was born in Topsham, Orange County, Vt., May 11, 1828. Up to 20 years of age his life was spent on the home farm, his education being acquired in the common school and the East Orange high school. He also taught one term of school there, and for several winters taught school in Westport, Mass., and attended school at Corinth and Bradford, Vt., during the summers. In 1853 he began teaching in Newark, N. J., where he was principal of a gram-









RALPH W. RICHARDSON AND FAMILY MR. AND MRS. JOHN Q. RICHARDSON



mar school for nine years. On October 2, 1853, he married Cordelia C. Colby, who also taught in the Newark schools until they moved to Minnesota in April, 1862, settling on the farm in section 34, Elgin Township. The log cabin on this farm was the first built in the township and was owned by his father, J. Q. Richardson. This place continued to be his home until December 1, 1895, when he and his family moved to Elgin Village, where Mr. Richardson had built a residence that summer. Mr. Richardson passed away on Monday, February 21, 1916, at the home of his son, R. W. Richardson, just south of the village. He was a man who always took an active interest in school, church and public affairs, both of the township and village, until incapacitated by illness. He was depended upon as one of the substantial men of the community, while his judgment and counsel on public questions was always good. He had built up one of the finest farm homes in this vicinity. Some 50 years ago he set out a large maple grove on the hillside to the south of his farm buildings, and after the trees were well grown he started a maple sugar camp, which he conducted for a number of years. He made sugar on a larger scale than anyone else in this vicinity, and hundreds visited his camp at sugaring time. He was also greatly interested in horticulture, and for many years had one of the finest orchards in this section. His political affiliation had always been with the Republican party. He was one of the early members of the Congregational church in Elgin, and retained his membership therein, though for many years he was organist of the M. E. church and retained his interest in music to the end of his life. Many young people in Elgin became interested in singing by attending a free singing school conducted for several years by him in the Elgin schoolhouse. He was a member of the Masonic lodge, in which he held the office of secretary, taking a demit from the lodge a number of years ago. He served his town several years as assessor. Mr. Richardson was survived by his wife, Mrs. Cordelia C. Richardson, and one son, Ralph W. A brother, Charles, also remains to mourn his loss.

**Ralph W. Richardson**, for a number of years until 1920, vice president of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Elgin, of which village he is one of the leading citizens, was born June 19, 1867, in Elgin Township, on the farm of his parents, John Q. and Cordelia (Colby) Richardson. He acquired his education in the public schools of Elgin and at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. After that he followed teaching winters and farming summers until 1895. Then in December, that year, he rented his father's farm of 237 acres in Elgin Township, and operated it continuously until November, 1919, when he retired and moved to Elgin Village. While living on the farm, his father gave him three acres of it, on which he erected a fine residence, in which he resided until his retirement. When the creamery association was organized he became secretary of the board, a position that he held for several years. He was vice president of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank from the time it was organized until 1920, when he was succeeded by Thomas Richardson. For a number of years he has been secretary of the Old Settlers' Association of Elgin. Always known as a patriotic citizen, and long recognized as an able business man, his services were naturally called into requisition during the recent world war, and he readily and cheerfully responded, taking an active part in all local war work, including the War Saving Stamps, the third, fourth and fifth Liberty Loan drives and Y. M. C. A. drives, and being township chairman of United War Work in 1918, including the Christmas Roll Call, the Red Cross drive in December 1918, and the Christmas Seal Sale in December, 1919, besides other patriotic activities.

Mr. Richardson was first married, September 6, 1891, to Mary E. Rollins, who was born on her parents' farm in Elgin Township, October 10, 1867, daughter of Irvin W. and Ellen (Keith) Rollins. She died after months of suffering patiently endured, at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minn., on



December 28, 1908. Beneath a modest, quiet demeanor, Mrs. Mary E. Richardson concealed a force of character, a richness of mental endowment, a capacity of doing things, and a steadiness and sanity of religious life that were little suspected except by her most intimate friends. The memory of her unselfish devotions, of the beauty and serenity of her faith, of her wifely and sisterly love, will ever be to them an incentive to Christian living, and an admonition to brave and high endeavor.

On April 17, 1911, Mr. Richardson married, secondly, Phebe Fisk, who was born in Kent, England, daughter of William M. and Rachel (Gower) Fisk. She came to America in 1907 and the first four years of her residence in this country were spent in California. It was in 1911, when she was visiting a cousin in Elgin, that she first met Mr. Richardson, and the attachment grew up which ended in their marriage. On February 4, 1913, a son, John William, was born to them. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson are highly respected in the community. During the war period she was chairman of the Council of National Defense of Elgin Village and Township. While still residing in England Mrs. Phebe Richardson became a member of the Baptist church. On June 4, 1920, both she and her husband united by letter with the Methodist Episcopal church of Elgin, Mr. Richardson having formerly been a member of the Congregational church. Their son John also joined on the same day.

**John W. Dill**, a pioneer, was born in Germany, and was there reared. He came to America in 1843, and located on a farm near St. Louis, Mo., where on December 12, 1856, he married Margaret Wax, a native of Germany. In 1864 they came to Reads and settled at Read's Landing, where the father was employed at teaming and other work. He died May 2, 1882. The mother is making her home with her daughter, Setta, in Wabasha. Mr. and Mrs. Dill were the parents of five children: Louise (deceased), Victoria (deceased), John G., Setta, living in Wabash, Deana, wife of E. M. Schmidt, of Wabasha.

**John G. Dill**, secretary and treasurer of the R. E. Jones Co., owning and operating a line of grain elevators in Minnesota and Wisconsin, is a leading citizen of Wabasha, ever alive to its best interests, and an enthusiastic believer in its continued prosperity and future possibilities. He was born at Marine, Ill., November 30, 1862, son of John W. and Margaret Dill, who brought him to this country at the close of the Civil War, when he was two years old. He was reared in Read's Landing, this county, and has made his own way in the world since he was 13 years of age, working at such jobs as he could get during the summer months and attended school winters. At the age of 17 he entered the employ of Grub & Miller, general store, at Wabasha as clerk, and remained with their successors, Hirschy & Son. In 1887 he entered the employ of the R. E. Jones Co. and by successive promotions has attained his present position, having remained with the firm continuously except for a year and a half, when he traveled for the Wabasha Roller Mill Co. Since he became secretary and treasurer of the Jones Company in 1904, he has been an important factor in its growth and success. In addition to his business, he has found time for considerable public service, especially during the war. He has conscientiously avoided political office, but has nevertheless been twice elected an alderman, and in that capacity has done most excellent work. Fraternally he is a member of Wabasha Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been secretary for some years. Mr. Dill was married November 6, 1889, to Elinor Jones, daughter of John Ap. and Elinor Jones, of Cambria, Wis., and to this union have been born three children: Margaret M., John G., Jr., and E. Louise. Margaret M. was born May 30, 1894, attended the Wabasha graded schools, and graduated from the Wabasha High School, attended the University of Minnesota for two seasons, and took special courses in music at Minneapolis for three years, being now instructor of music in the public schools of Monona, Iowa. John G., Jr., was born April 30, 1896, and is a graduate of the Wabasha High School.



and University of Minnesota. He served his country during the Great War in the Aviation Corps. E. Louise was born June 16, 1903, and is now attending the Downer Seminary at Milwaukee, Wis.

**R. E. Jones**, president of the R. E. Jones Co., incorporated, of Wabasha, one of the largest business concerns in southeastern Minnesota, was born at Cambria, Wis., January 14, 1855, son of John Ap and Elinor (Evans) Jones. The parents, who were natives of Wales, settled in Cambria in 1845, the year in which they came to America, which was soon after their marriage, as their son, R. E., was their first born child. The children subsequently born to them are: John D., who is now deceased; Richard, a resident of Foster, Wis.; Mary, deceased; Susan, who is principal of the Jefferson School at Winona, Minn., and Elinor, wife of John G. Dill of Wabasha. The father, John Ap Jones, was engaged in the elevator and grain business in Cambria until his death. His wife, who survived him, died in Wabasha at the home of her son, the subject of this sketch. R. E. Jones, who acquired his education in the public schools of Cambria, Wis., became associated with his father in the grain business there, and was thus occupied until he was 18 years old. During the next three years he was bookkeeper for Wheeler & Winter, provision dealers of Negaunee, Mich. Then returning home, he went into the grain business with his father and brothers at Cambria, and was in partnership with them subsequently for about ten years. In 1886 he came to Wabasha, Minn., and here became manager of the Terminal elevator for Henry J. O'Niel of Winona. After being thus engaged for three years he entered into business for himself, in 1889, in Wabasha, in association with J. G. Lawrence, under the firm name of R. E. Jones & Co., and in December of the same year the R. E. Jones Company was incorporated, with J. G. Lawrence as president and R. E. Jones as secretary, treasurer and manager, and has since been actively engaged in business along various lines, dealing in grain, seeds, wool, flour and feed and general produce. The operations of the company have expanded in the course of years until they now have a string of 20 grain elevators in eastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin. They also handle fire and life insurance, and furnish electric light and power to Wabasha city. Progressive and enterprising, Mr. Jones has gained high rank as a business man and has been a potent factor in the development of the community in which he has made his home, and of which he is now one of the leading citizens. For the last 25 years he had been a member of the Wabasha school board. In politics he is a Republican. Though reared in the Presbyterian faith, he is a member of no church, but attends and supports the Congregational church in Wabasha. He has taken an active and patriotic part in war activities, having served as chairman of the Y. M. C. A., the Red Cross Society and of the United War Work drives. Mr. Jones was married in April, 1882, to Perrie Williams, daughter of Morris and Perrie Williams, of Cambria, Wis. Of this union four children have been born: David M., Perrie, Elinor and Robert. David M., who was graduated from the Wabasha High School, the Minnesota University and the Boston School of Technology, is now living in Schenectady, N. Y., in the employ of the General Electric Company. Perrie, who was graduated from the Wabasha High School, and from Smith College, Massachusetts, is employed in the New York City library in the department of technology, but during the war with Germany has served with the Y. M. C. A. in Paris, France. Elinor, a graduate of the Wabasha High School and Smith College, is now Mrs. H. G. Cant, of Minneapolis. Robert Ap., who was graduated from the Wabasha High School and from the Minnesota University as electrical engineer, is in the employ of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, N. Y. It will thus be seen that all Mr. Jones's children have received a superior education, fitting them for the higher walks of life, and are making good use of their opportunities for usefulness. Among Mr. Jones's social activities are those connected with his membership in Waupahassa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha, and White Oak Camp, No. 2077, M. W. A., also of this city.



**William Jacobs**, a former resident of Chester Township, Wabasha County, where he was engaged in farming, was a native of Luxemburg, where he grew to manhood and was employed by a ship building company in getting out ship timber. He was married in Beford, Luxemburg, in 1844, to Mary Pline, and for 24 years thereafter continued to reside in his native land. Then in 1868 he came with his wife and family to the United States, proceeding west to Wabasha County, Minn., where he arrived in October. He was well provided with funds, having in his possession about \$2,000 in gold. That fall he located on rented land in Pepin Township, about two miles from Reed's Landing, and engaged in farming. After remaining in that location for four years, in 1872 he bought 160 acres in Watonwan County, Minn., between St. James and Medelia and moved there, but left his family here the first season. His prospects in Watonwan County were, however, blasted by the grasshopper scourge and he lost all he had invested there. Returning to Wabasha County, he bought an improved tract of 80 acres in Chester Township and set to work to recoup his fortunes. The family lived on this farm for 18 years, or until Mr. Jacobs' death. He was survived by his wife, who, however, finally passed away. They were the parents of six children: Mary, now the widow of John Beaver of Wabasha; Margaret, the widow of Peter Frisch of Minneapolis; Anna, now Mrs. John Carrels of Wabasha; Catherine, who is the widow of Nicholas Bartholomew and resides at Bellchester in Chester Township, Wabasha County; Katy, who is the wife of Nicholas Trienem of Morris, Minn., and William T., of Wabasha.

**William T. Jacobs**, proprietor of a livery, garage and auto bus line in Wabasha city, was born in Luxemburg, February 2, 1861, son of William and Mary (Pline) Jacobs. He was about seven years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States, and could already read and write, having attended school in his native land. His education was continued up to the age of 18 in the Wabasha public school, and afterwards for a year in St. Francis Academy at Milwaukee, Wis. He then returned to his parents' farm in Chester Township, Wabasha County, and remained there until 1888, in the fall of that year coming to Wabasha city. Here in 1895 he engaged in the livery business, to which in 1915 he added a garage and auto department and has since operated an auto bus line. These enterprises he has conducted with good judgment and they have developed to profitable proportions. Mr. Jacobs owns a comfortable home in Wabasha and is numbered among the prosperous business men of the city. Politically a Democrat, he formerly served one term as clerk of Chester Township. On February 5, 1894, he was united in marriage with Catherine, daughter of Adolph and Margaret Funke, who was born in Luxemburg, November 5, 1865, and came to this country along about 1888. Shortly after his marriage he sent for his wife's parents to come to this country, and the father subsequently died in Wabasha County, and the mother in Harvey, N. D. To Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs have been born six children, as follow: Margaret, November 5, 1894; John P., October 5, 1896; Cecelia, January 27, 1900; William, August 9, 1903; Helen, August 9, 1906; and George, March 2, 1907. Margaret, who was graduated from the Wabasha High School and the Winona Normal School, is now teaching in Wabasha County. John P., who is employed by his father in the latter's garage, enlisted in the spring of 1918 in the U. S. navy, trained at the Great Lakes naval station, and was discharged January 10, 1919, without having seen service abroad. Cecelia was graduated from the Wabasha schools and the Winona Business College, and is now engaged in stenography and typewriting. William, Helen and George are still pursuing their studies. Mr. Jacobs and his family are members of St. Felix parish of the Catholic church in Wabasha, and he also belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

**Knute Johnson.**—The story of Knute Johnson is that of a successful life. Born in Roros, Norway, December 26, 1830, he came to America in 1853, a young man full of vigor; he worked a short time at railroading in Chicago, went





MR. AND MRS. CHARLES K. JOHNSON







to Iowa in the fall of 1853, and in 1855 became a pioneer of Wabasha County, Minn. At Reed's Landing he found employment in the Marshall sawmill, his wages being \$20 a month, and showed such intelligence and industry that he was made foreman, the assistant foreman being Lucas Kuehn, who afterward founded the Kuehn Mercantile Co. at Wabasha. Finally leaving the sawmill, Mr. Johnson went to Trout Creek Valley, Glasgow Township, and bought 400 acres of wild land on which he began farming. To this already large tract he added 160 acres. He remained there until 1877, and then, selling the farm, he bought 600 acres of wild land on Pepin Hill, in section 20, overlooking Lake Pepin, and once again began the work of improvement, in which his sons, when old enough, assisted, and together they cleared 250 acres, built a comfortable two-story frame house, a large barn with full stone basement, and other substantial tructures. The work on these buildings Mr. Johnson did chiefly himself, as his original trade was that of carpenter. For 21 years he remained on that farm, engaged in general agriculture, having a first class equipment, and keeping good stock. Then in 1898 he moved to Wabasha that his younger children might enjoy better opportunities for education, leaving the farm in the hands of his sons, John and Charles. He was first married in 1854 to Johanna Christine Schanka, who died in 1873. In 1875 he married Laura Stenerson, who died October 11, 1898. After her death he returned to the farm and remained there until 1914. Then he again took up his residence in Wabasha, where he died October 10, 1915. Mr. Johnson was of a quiet, retiring nature and benevolent disposition. His innate force of character made him widely known and he was universally respected. He served the township at various times in public office, in politics being a republican. For many years he was a stockholder in and director of the First National Bank of Wabasha. Industry and thrift brought him success, and at his death he had acquired upwards of 1,400 acres of land in Wabasha County. By his two successive wives he had eleven children, all of whom are living, namely: Jennie, a resident of Wabasha; James, who is a blacksmith at Crookston, Minn.; Emma, now Mrs. H. C. Stahmann of Winona; Tena, who is the wife of W. C. Brunner of Delano, Calif.; Mabel, now Mrs. Fred Bade of Glasgow Township; Eva Louise, wife of Henry Zeirtz of Delano, Calif.; Della, now Mrs. F. Higgins of Columbia Falls, Mont.; William, a farmer of Glasgow Township, this county; Lloyd K., a farmer at Weaver, this county; and John, born in Iowa, December 13, 1854; and Charles K., born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, July 9, 1864, who together own and operate the Pepin Hill farm, following general agriculture, including the raising of grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine. John, who is unmarried, was always associated with his father on the farm until the elder Mr. Johnson's retirement, and since then he has remained on it. Charles for 20 years followed well digging, but the farm was his home and for a number of years he has continuously resided on it. On November 21, 1906, he married Emma Rother, who was born October 29, 1883, daughter of Charles and Caroline (Cushman) Rother of Theilman, Wabasha County, and they have had three children: Leona, born February 17, 1908; Alvin J. P., born January 20, 1910; and Victor, born in 1914, who died in infancy. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

**Amherst Millis** was born in Denver, Mich., July 3, 1862, and as a young man came to Wabasha County, where he engaged in railroad work. He was a hard-working man, industrious and frugal. He married, establishing his home on the west side, and in time erected a comfortable house in which, with his wife and two small sons, he looked forward to a happy and prosperous future. But these plans were brought to a sudden end November 18, 1893, when he was killed in a railroad accident. It was then that his brave hearted wife proved her sterling worth. Born in Eagle Harbor, Mich., April 5, 1866, brought to Wabasha County as a child, and married October 1, 1887, she was still in her late twenties when left with the task of rearing and educating two fatherless



boys. Hiding her grief in her heart she took up the burden of life with unflinching courage. Two years after her husband's death she opened a small store in a building adjoining her home. She was a good business woman, she was respected and liked throughout the community, and the business grew. So successful indeed did her careful management prove, that she was enabled not only to pay off the indebtedness on her own home, but also to purchase a house and lot adjoining, in addition to rearing and educating two boys. She conducted the store until her death July 19, 1918. She was a deeply religious woman, and a member of the St. Felix Catholic church. Mrs. Millis, whose maiden name was Veronica Theisen, was one of a family of seven children, the others being Martin, John, Nicholas, Peter, Mary and Anna. Martin is a grain buyer in Grafton, Iowa. John is a lumberman in La Grande, Ore. Nicholas is a lumberman in Sacramento, Calif. Peter is dead. Mary married Robert Brown of Greenfield Township, this county, and is also dead. Anna keeps house for her nephews, Roy E. and Walter, and assists them in their store at Wabasha.

**Roy Ervin Millis**, one of the leading business men of Wabasha, is conducting a general mercantile store which enjoys a large patronage, and which is constantly increasing in scope and popularity. He is a native of the city where he now resides, born August 12, 1888, son of Amherst and Veronica (Theisen) Millis. He passed through the Wabasha schools and attended St. Felix High School until he was 18 years of age. Throughout his boyhood he assisted his mother in her store, and upon her death took over the well established business which she left. He is a good business man and is thoroughly alive to the needs of the community. He has done excellent work as vice president of the Wabasha Business Men's Club, looking always to the best interests of the city. He is prominent in the Knights of Columbus, and is a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union. His religious allegiance is given to the St. Felix Catholic church. Mr. Millis is assisted in his business by his only brother, Walter, and by his aunt, Anna Theisen.

**Edward Charles Hall**, a well known and respected citizen of Wabasha, engineer of the Buena Vista Sanitorium, and also proprietor of a truck farm, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., May 10, 1883, son of Thomas and Jane (Burns) Hall. The farm of his parents, where they settled at an early day, lies four miles northwest of Plainview. At the time of their advent in this country they were very poor, but in time they developed the farm, erecting on it a fair set of buildings. The father died June 6, 1894, and the mother in 1911, in Wabasha. Their children were: Katherine, now deceased; James, of Lake City; Bridget, wife of Fred Wolfe of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Thomas, of Millville; Edward Charles, of Wabasha; Jane, wife of Fred Schmauss, of Lake City; Margaret, deceased; John, deceased; and John (second), of Sioux Falls, S. D. Edward Charles Hall had to take a man's place on the farm when only 10 years old. He resided at home until 1905, in which year he went to Pocatella, Idaho, where he found employment as railroad man on the "Oregon Short Line." In the fall of that year he was called home to Wabasha County and resumed his old place on the home farm. On June 12, 1906, he was united in marriage with Nora, daughter of Edward and Mary McKeefery, of Wabasha, and for the next two years he resided on the farm of his wife's parents, just on the edge of Wabasha city. For five years he was employed in the roundhouse and shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at Wabasha. He then bought the farm of his wife's parents, which contained 40 acres, of which he sold 14 acres for the site of the Buena Vista Sanitorium, of which institution he became engineer in 1917. Besides attending to his duties in that position, he carries on a small truck farm with profitable results. Mrs. Hall was born on her parents' farm May 6, 1878, her parents being early settlers in this region. Her father has passed away, but her mother is still living. Both the Hall and McKeefery families are Catholic in religion, and Mr. Hall









MR. AND MRS. PETER CARSTENS



and his family are members of St. Felix parish, Wabasha. Mr. Hall has always been a Republican politically. He and his wife have had six children: Donald, now deceased; Margaret, Dorothy, Mildred, Ann, deceased, and Charles.

**George Schwirtz**, now deceased, who was for many years a prominent merchant of Wabasha city, was born in West Albany Township, this county, December 11, 1861, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Schwirtz. The father was a native of Luxemburg and the mother of Baden, Germany. They were early settlers in West Albany Township, arriving there before the Civil War. Their son, George, was a small boy when the family left the farm, removing to Wabasha City, where John Schwirtz engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement business. He and his wife subsequently died in Wabasha. After coming to town George Schwirtz attended the public schools and subsequently entered his father's store, where he learned the business. On his father's retirement in 1888, he, with a brother-in-law, August Marsh, became owner of the business, which he carried on subsequently for 24 years, or until his death, June 12, 1912. He made an honorable record as one of Wabasha's successful business men, and, moreover, took a lively and beneficial interest in all civic affairs, as a Democrat becoming prominent in local politics, and serving the city both as alderman and mayor. With him, however, party was always subordinate to his duty as a citizen, the interests of the general community being his first consideration. Though illness seized him five years before his death, and continually strengthened its hold, he bore his misfortunes patiently and without complaint, continuing to perform his duties as long as he was able. He made good provision for his family and left them a comfortable home at the corner of Second and Lafayette streets. The family are active and useful members of the Episcopal church in Wabasha, and Mr. Schwirtz was fraternally affiliated with the Odd Fellows, Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. Schwirtz was married May 5, 1886, to Elise Schubert, who was born in Rochester, N. Y., September 21, 1865. As a babe she accompanied her parents in 1866 to Milwaukee, Wis., where her father died a few years later, in 1869. The mother in 1882 moved to Winona, Minn., where she was living with her daughter, Elise, at the time of the latter's marriage to Mr. Schwirtz. Mr. and Mrs. Schwirtz became the parents of seven children, who were born as follows: Dora, March 28, 1887; Clara, January 23, 1889; Ann, September 9, 1891; Elise, August 31, 1893; Marie, March 27, 1895 (deceased); Margaret, January 7, 1897; and John, April 26, 1899. Dora is now the wife of Dr. William B. Heagerty of Mazeppa, Minn. Clara, a graduate of the Wabasha High School and the Winona State Normal School, is now a teacher, as also is her sister, Ann, who was graduated from the same educational institutions. Margaret, after graduating from the Wabasha High School, spent one year at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., and in 1917 was graduated from the Northwestern Conservatory of Music at Minneapolis. John, who is a graduate of the Wabasha High School, and is a student at Carleton College, served during the recent war as second class pharmacist in the medical corps of the navy on board the U. S. S. Minnesota.

**Peter Carstens**, a well known and respected farmer of Oakwood Township, was born in Holstein, Germany, May 17, 1852, son of Max and Christina (Barnholt) Carstens. The father died in Germany when his son Peter was two years old, and the widowed mother subsequently married Jurgen Loshe. Peter was then adopted by his Uncle Claus Singelman, with whom he resided until he came to America in 1872, settling in Iowa. In that state he remained about 15 months, and then came to Wabasha County, Minn., and lived here for three years. He then returned to Iowa, spent nine months there, and subsequently came back to Wabasha County, worked out three years for Hans Behrns. Then in the spring of 1880 he bought the first part of his present farm, a tract of 70 acres in section 17, Oakwood Township, on which was a good house with some straw sheds. The purchase of additional



land has brought the area of his farm up to 160 acres. By way of improvements, he has remodeled the house, erected a barn, 40 by 60 feet, with full basement, and several outbuildings. He is following diversified farming successfully and has a high standing in the community as a useful and industrious citizen. On November 16, 1878, Mr. Carstens was united in marriage with Phoebe Schuchard, and this union has resulted in the birth of ten children: Rudolph, a resident of Renville County, who married Amelia Lehman, has two children, Alice and Edna. John of Oakwood Township, married Matilda Carstens, and has five children, Elmer, Edna, Luella, Arnold and Harold. Edward, of Renville County, married Ida Kekker, and has one daughter. Herman, of Lake City, married Emily Winkle, and has two children, Lydia and Vera. Alfred, who married Martha Schroeder, and is now operating the home farm with his brother Carl; Carl, associated as above mentioned, with Alfred; Walter, also on the farm; Mary, wife of Oscar Nass of Plainview, one child, Evelyn; Emma, wife of Walter Senst of Zumbro Township, has one child, Evelyn; and Anna, now Mrs. Fred Wempner of Oakwood Township, has two children, Franklin and Kenneth. Mrs. Phoebe Carstens, the mother of these children, died February 6, 1919. Mr. Carstens is a member of the Lutheran church.

**James Norton**, a well-to-do resident of Wabasha City, where he is now living retired after a long and successful career in agriculture, was born in Highland Township, June 10, 1869, son of Patrick and Mary (Flynn) Norton. The parents were natives of Ireland who were married in Racine, Wis., to which place they came from Ireland in 1858. Soon after their marriage they came to Wabasha County, Minn., settling on land in section 10, Highland Township. Their financial resources were very limited to begin with, but they cleared the land and finally developed it into one of the best farms in the locality, erecting good substantial buildings. Both parents are now deceased, the father having died on the old home farm July 13, 1917, and the mother in the hospital at Wabasha, September 21, 1919. James Norton acquired his education in District School No. 37, Highland Township. As he grew older he became associated with his father in the work of the farm, and later operated it for ten years before the father's death. After that event it came into his possession and he continued its operation subsequently until his retirement in 1917, when he sold it and moved to Wabasha. It is located eight miles from Kellogg, seven miles from Theilman, and nine miles from Plainview, and during his residence there he followed diversified agriculture, keeping high grade cattle and hogs. Kellogg and Theilman were his principal grain markets. Mr. Norton operated the property to good advantage and acquired a competency. Of the 240 acres contained in the farm, he had 160 under the plow, the rest being in timber and pasture. On moving to Wabasha he purchased a fine modern home, equipped with steam heat, electric lights, bath, and all modern improvements that he finds necessary or desirable. It is favorably located on Third street, near the county court house. Mr. Norton and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he also has membership in the Knights of Columbus. Politically he is a Democrat. On October 23, 1909, he was united in marriage with Mary Sullivan, who was born June 13, 1868, daughter of Michael and Anna (Maher) Sullivan, of Oakwood Township. While living on the farm he and his were members of Conception parish, which he served as trustee, but since coming to Wabasha they have become members of St. Felix parish here. Mr. and Mrs. Norton have had no children of their own, but are rearing two girls, Retta and Catherine La Rocque, the children of William and Bridget La Rocque who died with influenza both on the same day, October 29, 1918. They are Mrs. Norton's nieces, their mother having been her sister. Mr. Norton is the owner of a good auto car, and he and his wife are now able to enjoy a season of comfortable leisure, the fruit of their former industry. They have made a number of friends in Wabasha and are widely respected.



**Louis O. Sundquist**, the present custodian of the Wabasha County court house, who is now following that light occupation after a long and active career as a business man, was born near Gefle, Sweden, September 22, 1863, son of Olaf and Christine (Anderson) Sundquist. The father was for a number of years employed as a builder of water and turbine wheels by a company manufacturing the famous Swedish steel. Both he and his wife died in their native land. Their son, Louis O., was graduated from a high school in Sweden after attending for the last year of the course. He then entered the service of the company by whom his father was employed, beginning as a fireman and subsequently learning the trade of steam engineering. In 1880 he received his first papers as engineer, and for two years subsequently followed that occupation in Sweden. In 1882 he emigrated to Minnesota, locating in Weaver, Wabasha County, where he took out his first naturalization papers, later becoming a full American citizen. For a while after arriving in Weaver he worked at odd jobs and also on the Mississippi river. He then obtained a position in the Montgomery Bros.' creamery, and remained there three years, except that during the fall of each year he worked as engineer with steam threshing outfits. At the end of that period Mr. Sundquist went to Hillsboro, N. D., where for three years he was in the employ of the J. L. Grandin Farm Line and Elevator Co., having charge of their District No. 8. He then returned to Weaver where he formed a partnership with J. W. Stahman and engaged in the manufacture of wagons. In 1892 Mr. Sundquist sold his interests to his partner and went to Plainview, this county, where he engaged in the wagon making and general repair business, an occupation in which he continued there for 26 years. During his residence there he served the village one year as marshal. Finally selling out his business in Plainview, he entered the employ of the Omaha Structural Steel & Bridge Co., and worked for one year on the construction of the Zumbro dam. He then returned to Plainview, where he remained until January 1, 1919, when he came to Wabasha to assume the duties of his present position as custodian of the court house. He owns a good residence property in Plainview and is comfortably situated. Fraternally he is affiliated with Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., of Plainview, which he served as junior warden; the Royal Arch Chapter at Lake City, and Plainview Camp, No. 2431, M. W. A. He is also a member of the Minnesota Corps. Religiously he is affiliated with the Lutheran church. Mr. Sundquist was married about 1890, to Caroline Olson, daughter of Andrew and Martha Olson, of Minneiska Township, Wabasha County. She was born in Weaver, August 20, 1866, and died after an operation at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minn., September 7, 1918.

**Henry Hampe**, a pioneer of Wabasha County now deceased, who was for many years a farmer, and later a merchant at Theilman, was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to the United States when a young man, locating first at Milwaukee, which was then a very small place. From there he went to the Lake Superior Copper region, where for some time he worked in the mines. It was in 1855 that he came to Wabasha County, taking 160 acres of wild land in Glasgow Township. After spending eleven years in its development, he traded it for a 200-acre farm on West Indian Creek in Highland Township, near Theilman. This land was partly improved, and Mr. Hampe continued the improvements, operating the farm until 1897. He also erected a flour mill on this farm which he operated in connection with farming. He then gave up agricultural work, and removing to Theilman village, opened a general mercantile business, conducting his store for three years, when he retired. He died in July, 1907, having had a successful career and won the respect of his neighbors by his sterling qualities as a man and citizen. He and his wife were Catholics in religion. Mr. Hampe was married in 1860 to Mary Fisch, a native of Luxemburg, who had come to Minnesota alone in that year to visit a sister, and her meeting with Mr. Hampe resulted in her



marriage and permanent residence here. She died several years before her husband, on August 11, 1904. They had five children: Nicholas and Peter (twins), born February 17, 1861; Theodore, now a merchant at Theilman, Minn.; Bertha Catherine, born January 13, 1866, who died unmarried August 9, 1888; and Mary, born March 13, 1872, now Mrs. John Bouquet of Caledonia, Minn. Nicholas, who was for 27 years in partnership with his brother Theodore in the mercantile business at Theilman, is now a prominent business man of Rock Rapids, Ia. Peter is living retired in Denver, Colo.

**Theodore Hampe**, head of the prosperous mercantile firm of Hampe Bros., of Theilman, also president of the Theilman State Bank, and postmaster, was born in Cook's Valley, Wabasha County, Minn., April 4, 1864, son of Henry and Mary (Fisch) Hampe. He was educated in the district school and at La Crosse Business College, and was employed on his parents' farm until November 26, 1889, when he came to Theilman and entered into mercantile business with his brother, Nicholas, and for 27 years they were associated in the business together. Nicholas is now engaged in the real estate and banking business at Rock Rapids, Iowa. The mercantile business at Theilman, however, is still conducted under the firm name of Hampe Bros., and it is in a flourishing condition, an extensive trade being carried on. Theodore Hampe was one of the organizers and incorporators of the Theilman State Bank, of which, as above mentioned, he is now president, while his duties as postmaster are carried on in connection with his store. He has served on the school board for a number of years, and has been an active factor in many things making for the advancement and prosperity of the village. In religion he is a Catholic, being a member of St. Joseph's parish at Theilman, and a liberal supporter of the church. For the past ten years he has been a member of the Knights of Columbus lodge. Mr. Hampe was married June 6, 1899 to Louise Riester, who was born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, May 12, 1867, daughter of Christian and Dinah (Krull) Riester. He and his wife have three children: William G., born May 6, 1900; Albert E., born November 6, 1901; and Walter N., born December 29, 1902. Wm. G. was educated in the common schools, at St. Mary's high school, Winona, St. Mary's College, and at a Winona business college, and is now associated with his father in the store. Albert E., after leaving the common school also attended the Catholic educational institutions above mentioned, as also did Walter N. Thus Mr. Hampe has given his sons a good education which has well fitted them to take a worthy and useful part in life. Mr. Hampe owns a beautiful modern residence in Theilman, where the family enjoys an ideal home life.

**J. Jacobs**, a well to do farmer of Plainview Township, who is making good progress along agricultural lines, was born in Mecklenburg Schwerin, Germany, January 11, 1864. He was educated in his native land and came to America in 1889 as a youth of 25 years, locating at once in Wabasha County, Minn. For two years he worked out on farms, saving his money with the view of ultimate independence. At the end of that time he rented a farm, which he operated two years, and then bought his present farm, at that time consisting of 117 acres, the area of which he has since increased by additional purchases to 362 acres. Sixty-two acres of it lie within the limits of Plainview village, the rest being in the township. The buildings have been remodeled or rebuilt by him, and include a barn 36 by 66 feet in size, also a good granary and machine sheds. He has a full complement of modern farm machinery, and has made the farm a paying investment. His principal stock consists of Durham cattle, with a full blooded sire, and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery and a member of the Stock Shipping Association, and is the owner of two complete farms, one of 185 acres and the home farm of 177 acres. Mr. Jacobs was married December 7, 1890, to Minnie Schwartz, who was born in Germany December 22, 1864, the same year as himself, and also came to America in the same year that he did, 1889. They are the parents of





J. JACOBS AND FAMILY







five children, all residing at home, namely: Ernest, born March 13, 1892; Rudolph, December 31, 1893; Albert, July 31, 1896; Edwin, November 22, 1901; Alvin, October 24, 1907. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

**Samuel D. Welch**, a Wabasha County pioneer, residing in Zumbro Falls, was born in the Province of Quebec, Lower Canada, May 22, 1837, son of Samuel D., Sr., and Lizzie (Waite) Welch, the mother being a daughter of Enoch Waite. The paternal grandfather, Welch, was from Wales, while Enoch Waite, of the maternal line, was from Holland. The Welch family settled at an early date in Concord, N. H., where Samuel D. Welch, Sr., was born, and where he lived until he reached maturity. He then moved to Canada, locating close to the New York line. Though Samuel D. Welch, Jr., was born in Canada, he was reared in New York state on a farm. There his father died in 1845. The mother survived her husband, dying in 1873 at the home of her son, Edward, in Iowa. They had a family of ten children, evenly divided as to the sexes. All of them are now deceased, except Samuel D. and his sister, Mrs. Catharine Fountain, who is living at Fremont, Ohio, with a daughter. Samuel D. Welch, Jr., remained on the farm in New York state until 22 years of age, attending school during the winters. In 1859 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating on a farm in the town of Hyde Park, on which he followed agriculture for 14 years. He then sold his farm and opened a hardware store and implement business at Millville, remaining there 10 years. At the end of that time, or about 1883, he came to Zumbro Falls, and bought a half interest in the general store of E. J. Stegner, of whom he later purchased the entire business. Subsequently he sold a half interest to his son-in-law, L. E. Scruby, and the business has since been carried on under the style of L. E. Scruby & Co. The concern occupies three buildings for store and warehouses, and deals in general merchandise, including wall paper and paints, with Mr. Scruby as the active manager. Samuel D. Welch, in addition to being one of the surviving pioneers of this county, is a Civil War veteran. He enlisted in August, 1862, in the Eighth Minnesota Infantry, and served two years and nine months. His early service was against the Sioux Indians, then in revolt, and his regiment being subsequently sent to the South, he took part in the battle of Murphreesboro. After being mustered out he returned to Minnesota and has since continued to reside in Wabasha County. For 26 years he has been a respected citizen of Zumbro Falls. He was first president of the village council, holding that office for two years, and for 16 years served as justice of the peace at Millville. While living on the farm he served efficiently in various town offices, including that of treasurer. Mr. Welch was married in 1865 in the town of Gillford to Elizabeth Oliver, daughter of O. L. and Martha Oliver, her parents being natives of New York state and early settlers in Wabasha County. They are both now deceased. Of this union a daughter, Mary, was born, who is now the wife of L. E. Scruby, of Zumbro Falls. Mrs. Elizabeth Welch died in 1908, since which time Mr. Welch has made his home with his daughter.

**Levi E. Scruby**, one of the leading business men of Zumbro Falls, manager of the general store of L. E. Scruby & Co., was born in Sparta, Wis., in 1863, son of Thomas and Caroline M. (Davis) Scruby. The father came from Cambridge, England, to the United States in 1832, settling in New York state, where he followed farming. At an early day he came to Wisconsin, but finding the country too rough to suit him, soon returned to New York, after farming for a while near Milwaukee. Later he came back to Wisconsin with his family, and this time took a farm near Sparta, where he remained, and where his death finally occurred. His wife died subsequently at Zumbro Falls, Minn. Levi E. Scruby was reared on his parents' farm, and attended school in Sparta. There also he began industrial life, and after a while became a conductor on a way freight. While thus employed he fell off the train when it was in motion and was badly injured. On his recovery he took up photography, and moving to Mazeppa, Minn., followed it there for 12 years. He was also for four years



postmaster there. In 1897 he came to Zumbro Falls and engaged in mercantile business, which he is still following, being in partnership with Samuel D. Welch. The business is a large and prosperous one, built up largely by Mr. Scruby's industry and enterprise, combined with honest dealing. He has held all the local offices at intervals, from that of president of the village to side supervisor, and has been notary public since coming to the village. Fraternally he is connected with the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic Order, and with Camp No. 3285, Modern Woodmen of America at Zumbro Falls. Mr. Scruby was married August 20, 1893, to Mary E., daughter of Samuel D. and Elizabeth (Oliver) Welch, then of Millville, but now of Zumbro Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Scruby have one child, Evlyn, wife of Arthur Schleicher, of Lake City, Minn., who is secretary-manager of the Rest Island Silver Black Fox Farm at Lake City. He was the organizer and promoter of the black fox industry in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Schleicher are the parents of two children: Charlotte Evlyn and Lois Ellen.

**Samuel Doughty**, for many years president of the Lake City Bank, was born at Rockaway, Long Island, September 22, 1816, son of Samuel and Betsey (Nelson) Doughty, and grandson of Henry Nelson, a veteran of the Revolutionary War. The family on both sides was of English descent, and early settlers on Long Island. Although he was but 18 miles from New York City, there were no public schools in the neighborhood, and he was therefore educated at home under the watchful supervision of a cultured and educated mother. As a youth he learned the blacksmithing trade, and before he was 20 years of age had set up a shop of his own. Even at that early age he took a deep interest in the welfare of his community, and it was mainly through his earnest and shrewdly directed efforts that a free school was established in his native hamlet. A little later he was elected a member of the school board, and served most efficiently. In 1852 he removed to Bloomington, Ill., where he established a shop, worked at his trade, and assisted in the upbuilding of that place. But he longed for a wider field of usefulness in a still newer community, so in 1854 he came up the Mississippi river looking for a suitable location. He was favorably impressed with the Lake Pepin region and decided to locate here. The following year he brought his family to Wabasha County, and was thereafter an important factor in its progress. In 1856 in company with Abner Dwelle and Abner Tibbetts, he platted the city of Lake City, and thereafter devoted his time and attention to the promotion of the growing hamlet. In 1875 he succeeded Joel Fletcher as the president of the Lake City Bank, and in this capacity he remained until a short time before his death. He died in Lake City October 9, 1893, and his death was sincerely mourned. Mr. Doughty was married at Bellport, Long Island, N. Y., July 22, 1838, to Hannah Rider, who was born March 4, 1820, and died in Lake City March 4, 1908. They were the parents of ten children: Phoebe, J. Edward, Henrietta F., Calvin Mott, John Coleman, Mary E., Asa B., Franklin A., Franklin Harper and Charles. Phoebe died in infancy. J. Edward was born July 2, 1841, became a leading Lake City attorney, and died July 14, 1884. He served through the Civil War as captain of the 2nd U. S. Sharpshooters (Co. L, 2nd Minn. Vol. Inf.) and was brevetted Major, a title which he afterward continued to bear. Henrietta F. died in infancy. Calvin Mott was born January 22, 1844, and is now living retired at Heron Lake, Minn. John Coleman was born July 4, 1846, and is now a leading citizen of Lake City. Mary E. died in childhood. Asa B. died in infancy. Franklin A. died in infancy. Franklin Harper was born August 17, 1854, and is now municipal judge of Lake City. Charles died in infancy.

**John Coleman Doughty**, one of the founders of the Jewell Nursery Co., and for many years actively identified with the commercial progress of Lake City, was born at Rockaway, Long Island, July 4, 1846, son of Samuel and Hannah (Rider) Doughty. He came to Bloomington, Ill., with his parents in 1852, and to Lake City, this county, in 1855. After due preparation in the



public schools and at home, he entered Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, where he took a two years' course. In May, 1864, when not yet 20 years of age, he responded to the call for "100 Day Men" and enlisted in Co. K, 150th Ohio Vol. Inf., serving in the Defense Before Washington during the Early Raids, after which he was duly discharged. In 1866-67 he took an English course in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Mich. That fall he went to Minneapolis with the view to learning the hardware business, working a year with Nichols & Bean and a year with Hedderly & Vroman. In 1869 he returned to Lake City, and became a construction contractor, specializing in bridge and warehouse work. In 1875 he formed a partnership with F. Hackett under the firm name of Hackett & Doughty, which continued until 1879 when Mr. Doughty became the sole owner. W. H. Hobbs became a partner in 1882, and on February 4, 1884, the establishment was sold to Anson Pierce. At that time it was said to be the best business house in the city. In the meantime the agricultural interests of the county had been constantly increasing, and the commercial horticultural possibilities had been fully demonstrated. It was therefore felt that the time and location were both suitable for the growth of a large nursery. As early as 1868, Dr. P. A. Jewell had started a small nursery, which was largely under the care of his brother-in-law, Joseph M. Underwood, who at the time of Dr. Jewell's death in 1879 became the sole owner. A year later Sloan M. Emery became Mr. Underwood's partner, and the two conducted a fine stock farm in addition to the nursery. Conditions were thus ripe for a decided increase in the scope and plan, when in 1884 John Coleman Doughty, the subject of this sketch, associated himself with these two gentlemen, and with them on February 26 of that year incorporated the Jewell Nursery Co., each holding a third interest. For some years Mr. Doughty acted as secretary and treasurer of the company. Of recent years he and his wife have led a retired life, making their home in the family residence on High street. The public service of Mr. Doughty has been considerable. For six years he aided the cause of education as president of the Lake City school board. For two terms he did satisfactory work as city recorder. For five years he had most responsible duties as president of the public board of Water and Light Commissioners. Fraternally he is a member of Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, A. F. & A. M., Hope Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., and Lake City Commandery, No. 6, K. T., all of Lake City. He has been active in all three, and in the Chapter has passed through the chairs. Mr. Doughty was married March 24, 1869, to Mary C. Herron, daughter of Samuel and Nancy Herron, of Lake City. She died January 11, 1874, at Brazil, Ind., leaving two children: Mary Emma, who was born December 18, 1869, and is now the wife of Leo Henschel, of Kansas City, Mo.; and Kate D., who was born March 26, 1872, and is now the wife of Henry Stoes, of Las Cruces, N. M. Mr. Doughty was married September 23, 1877, to Mary F. Brill, of Lake City, who died October 27, 1880, at Lake City, leaving one son, Jesse Edward, born July 13, 1879, secretary of the Gillette, Eaton & Squire Foundry & Machine Co., Lake City. Mr. Doughty was married November 20, 1890, to Mrs. Lucy C. Hill, of Lake City.

**Hugh McGowan**, who for a number of years was a well known and prosperous farmer in West Albany Township, where he died November 16, 1915, was born in New Brunswick April 22, 1848, son of Hugh and Margaret (Hare) McGowan. He was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. When a boy of seven years he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minn., disembarking from a steamer at Read's Landing. It was in 1855 when the county was very thinly settled by whites, but numbers were coming in, and the accommodations at the little landing place of Read's were so limited that the McGowan family had to take temporary shelter in a tent. They remained there but a short time, however, as Hugh McGowan, Sr., soon took a claim in Trout Brook Valley, Glasgow Township, where Hugh, Jr., attended district school, and where a half brother of the latter, Maurice McGovern, resides to this day. The mother, Mrs. Margaret



McGowan, died within a year, and the father marrying again, the subject of this sketch was reared by his step-mother. He remained on the Glasgow farm until about 1873, acquiring by practical experience a good knowledge of agriculture, and then started in for himself, buying of his elder brother, James, now in Alta, Canada, a farm of 160 acres in Lake Township, Wabasha County. On that place, known as the Pruter farm, he remained but two or three years, when he sold it and bought the William Huddleston farm, of the same size, in section 29, West Albany Township. On the latter he conducted agricultural operations for six years, when he again sold, buying an unimproved 80-acre farm in section 29, in West Albany Valley. There he built a small house, which proved his final residence. In 1915, the year before his death, he built a gambrel-roof barn, with full basement, measuring 36 by 80 by 16 feet, and provided with modern equipment. His landed property then amounted to 280 acres, and he had 130 acres of his land under the plow. He was a successful general farmer, keeping good grade stock, and for some 20 years, from about 1880 to 1900, bought grain at Lakey for the American market, shipping it to H. J. O'Neil of Winona, Minn. A man of strong constitution, he enjoyed good health until seized by paralysis in 1914, and during his active career was a hard worker. His integrity was unquestioned and he enjoyed an excellent reputation among his fellow townsmen. He was an organizer of the Millville State Bank and one of its stockholders. As a citizen he was alive to his responsibilities and served several terms as a member of the town board. Politically he was a Democrat and in religion a Catholic, he and his family belonging to St. Patrick's parish in West Albany, which he served as trustee. His fraternal affiliations were with the Knights of Columbus and Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. McGowan was married in West Albany Township, February 24, 1880, to Margaret McGinn, daughter of Henry and Jane (McCray) McGinn, of that township. She was born on a farm near Dubuque, Iowa, January 3, 1857, subsequently moving with her parents to Wabasha County. Both the latter died a number of years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McGowan were the parents of seven children: Harry, born January 25, 1881; Margaret Ellen, August 29, 1882; Hugh, April 23, 1885; William Arthur, December 4, 1886; Mary Jane, September 26, 1889; Thomas Edward, July 2, 1892, and John Francis, October 20, 1897. The first born child, Harry, died at the age of 13 years, on May 8, 1894. Margaret Ellen is now Mrs. James Sexton of Hyde Park Township. William Arthur, who is residing on an adjoining farm, served 17 months in the recent war as a member of the 176th Infantry, stationed at Camp Dodge. He was discharged January 9, 1919, not having seen foreign service. Mary Jane is the wife of W. G. Leonard of West Albany Township. Thomas Edward, who resides at Millville, and John Francis is operating the home farm.

**John F. Morris**, now living retired in Lake City, is one of the few surviving pioneers of Wabasha County, in which he has spent the last 63 years of his life. He was born in Somersetshire, England, June 25, 1841, son of Simon and Charlotte (Day) Morris. The father, who was a butcher by trade, came to the United States alone in 1849 or 1850, and proceeded as far west as Chicago, but soon returned east to Oswego, N. Y., where he engaged in business, his family joining him there. His career was cut short by death in 1854, and his widow went with her daughter, Mrs. Gabel Chalmers, to Canada, where she died in 1858. After his father's death, John F. Morris lived with his brother-in-law, Charles G. Thompson, who had married his sister Martha. At 15 he left school and engaged in teaming in Oswego County. Not long afterwards Mr. Thompson came west to Wabasha County, Minn., and in July, 1857, young Morris came here with his sister, who joined her husband. The first summer Mr. Morris was employed at good wages in operating a mill for Gillett Thompson Starr and Gaylord. The times became so hard that he worked the first winter for the above gentlemen in a sash and blind factory, for \$20 a month wages. His board cost him \$15 a month, but as times were



hard, he was glad to get any kind of employment. In the spring of 1858, with others, Mr. Morris staked out what was afterwards the Charles Wise farm in section 33, Lake Township, a farm which sold in 1919 for \$25,000; but as he was under age and had no parents living, he could not hold the claim and sold his right to a Mr. Kemp. His brother-in-law, Mr. Thompson, took land in West Albany Township, almost opposite to Mr. Morris' claim. Mr. Morris worked three years for his brother-in-law for \$100 a year and his board, grubbing and breaking land with an ox team. The country was wild and the best houses to be seen were only poor shanties. On June 18, 1861, Mr. Morris married Sarah Hancock, daughter of George F. and Alvira Hancock, who had settled in Lake Township directly opposite the farm of Mr. Thompson. She was born in New York State, February 12, 1846, and was 12 years old when she came to Wabasha County with her parents, the journey being made by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, then through Prairie du Chien and up the Mississippi river. She was descended from good New England stock and was reared a Methodist Episcopal. For a time after her marriage she resided at her parents' home, while her husband continued to work for Mr. Thompson. Finally they started housekeeping in a house belonging to Mr. Thompson in West Albany Township, their household furniture consisting only of a bed and a small cook stove with no chairs. In the winter of 1864-65 Mr. Morris enlisted for service in the Civil War, in Company D, First Battalion of Minnesota troops, and was sent to Petersburg, Va., where he was located at the time of Lee's surrender. Soon afterwards he was mustered out at Jeffersonville, Ind., and returned home. Procuring some horses, he then engaged in teaming until the winter. In the spring of 1866 he moved onto a tract of 160 acres which he had taken on section 8, West Albany Township, eight miles south of Lake City. The land was all wild and he had to erect buildings, which included a board house of one and a half stories, measuring 14 by 22 feet, and some log sheds covered with straw for stables. In addition to a team he had one cow. For years he and his family resided in this same house, during which time he broke and developed 75 acres of the land. This farm is still in the family, being now owned by his son, Edwin D. Morris. In 1883 Mrs. Morris' mother being ill, Mr. Morris and his wife left the West Albany farm to care for her, and remained at their home in Lake Township till 1910. Mrs. Hancock died November 22, 1886, her husband passing away some five months later. Mr. Morris acquired the Hancock homestead, on which he built a good two-story frame house, and a modern frame barn, 36 by 72 by 16 feet, with full basement and cement floors; also a granary, 30 by 30 by 14, and other needed structures. In addition to that farm, containing 160 acres, he bought an adjoining tract of 160 acres, which, with his West Albany farm, makes 480 acres in all that he still owns. He was a successful breeder of Red Poll cattle and Poland-China swine, and also raised good crops of grain and other farm produce. All the land in his possession is under cultivation except a few acres of timber and pasture. In 1910 he retired and took up his residence in Lake City, leaving his son Edwin D. in charge of the farms. He owns a good city residence and is now enjoying the fruits of his former hard labors and trying experiences. He has always been a Republican in politics, though not a strong party man, and religiously was reared an Episcopalian. His wife died in Lake City, December 26, 1914, and was buried in Lakewood Cemetery. Both her parents died some years ago. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Morris: Hattie A., November 21, 1862; Mary, July 20, 1866, and Edwin D., September 21, 1874. Hattie A. married Louis Smith of Burlington, Wash. She has two daughters, Mamie and Nettie, both of whom are married. Mary is the wife of James Gray, a farmer of Lake Township. Edwin D., as already mentioned, is now caring for his father's property, and is proving a successful farmer. Mr. Morris, at various times, served in township office, and always showed him-

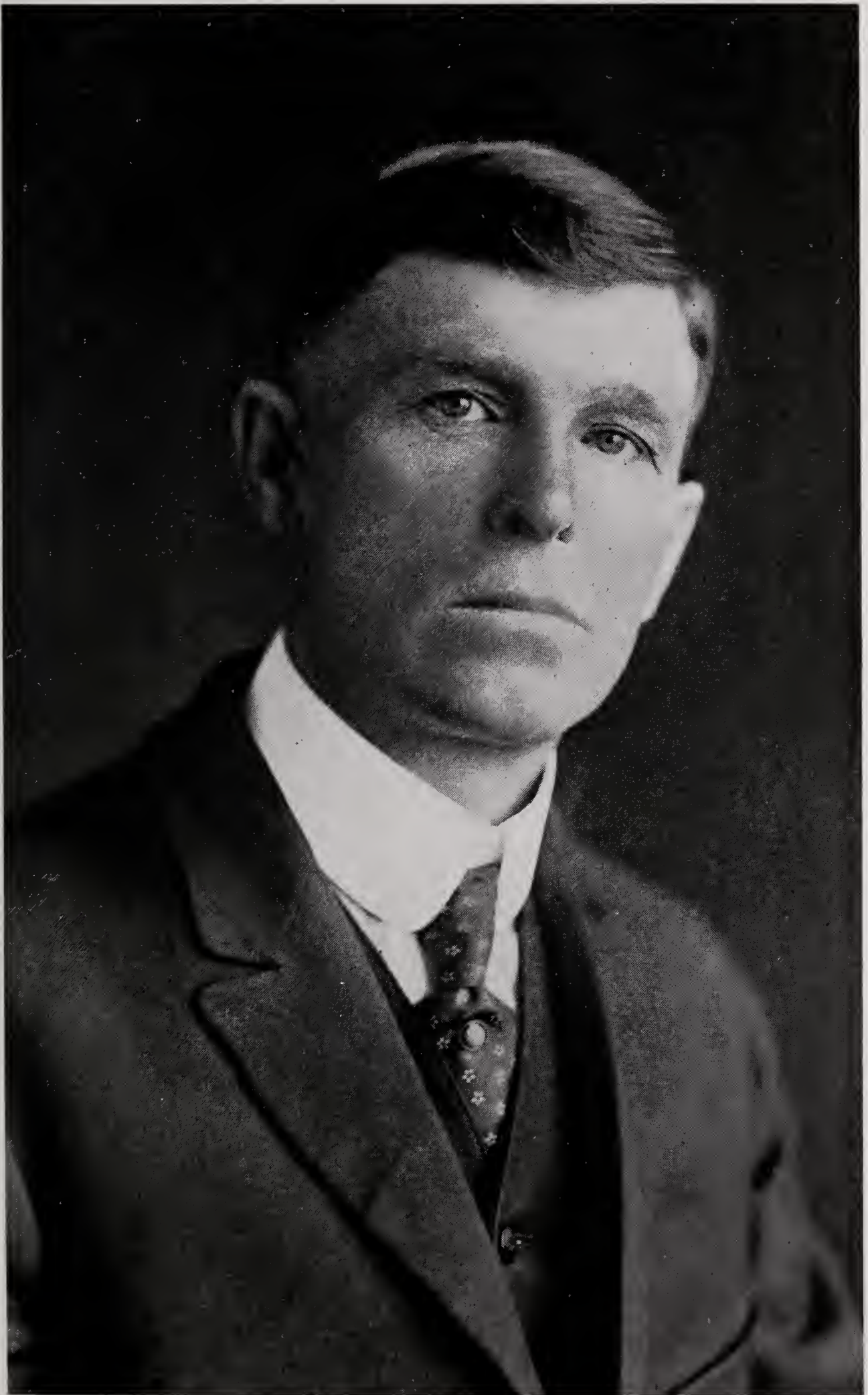


self a good citizen, ready to lend his aid and influence to every project for the good of the community. He has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances and is a man highly esteemed and respected.

**Edwin D. Morris**, an energetic and thriving farmer of Lake Township, was born in West Albany Township, September 21, 1874, son of John F. and Sarah (Hancock) Morris, who were pioneers of this county. When he was 12 years old his parents removed to Lake Township, and he has since always resided in section 32. In his boyhood he attended district school for a while, and in the fall of 1893 became a student in the Minnesota Agricultural College, where he was graduated in the spring of 1896. He has always lived on the home farm except for three months which he spent in the state of Washington in 1908. Since his father's retirement in the fall of 1909 he has operated the farm in section 32, and also the old original homestead of 160 acres in section 8, West Albany Township. A practical and scientific farmer, he has made a good record, and is well provided with good modern machinery and other necessary equipment. His operations are conducted on an extensive scale, the land under his control amounting to 320 acres, and he practices general farming, making a specialty of breeding Red Poll registered cattle. For ten years he has served as clerk of Lake Township, in politics being a Republican. Mr. Morris was married June 16, 1909, to Helen, daughter of Charles and Helen Frost, of Lake City; she was born December 22, 1880, at Central Point. Her parents were early settlers in this county, locating at Lake City. Mrs. Morris attended the Lake City Commercial College, and subsequently became a nurse, securing her training at the city and county hospital at St. Paul. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morris were reared in the faith of the Episcopal church. Their home has been brightened by the advent of two children: John F., born April 11, 1911, and Jean S. born June 29, 1918.

**Ole Olson**, who operates a fine farm of 325 acres in section 37, Lake Township, is a man who has risen to his present position by overcoming many obstacles through force of will and determination. He was born May 8, 1862, in Sweden, not far from the cities of Landscona and Lund, his parents being Olaf and Eleanor Olson. The father was a poor workman, who, however, owned a small piece of land. He subsequently died in Sweden. The mother was born in Sweden in 1830. She and her husband reared three sons, Ole, Peter and John. John lives in Sweden, but Peter, who, like Ole, came to America, is now a farmer in Lake Township, this county. Ole Olson had to make himself useful at an early age, working as herdsboy during the summers and attending school winters up to the age of 13 years, when he began working out as a farm hand. At 15 he began to learn the blacksmith's trade, but soon gave it up and went back to the farm. For four years he was coachman for a Mr. Grundtworm, a wealthy Danish land owner, and at 21 entered the employ of another farmer. Every year during this period he had to serve several months in the army, his employer releasing him for that purpose. He remained with the farmer last mentioned for five years and then went back to Mr. Grundtworm as superintendent of his farm, and this time remained with him four and a half years, meanwhile receiving military training in the cavalry. On October 30, 1886, he married Olivia Oakeson, who was born in Sweden, September 20, 1861, daughter of Oke and Johanna Pearson, and who had worked for the same employer as himself. By this time Mr. Olson had resolved to emigrate to the United States, but as he was still of military age, neither the government nor the church would grant him permission. He finally got a permit to accompany his wife to this country on his promise to return. They went to Denmark, and from there to Leith and Glasgow, Scotland, sailing for America from the latter port May 5, 1887. They had bought tickets in Glasgow for Minneapolis, which city they reached the latter part of May, the ocean voyage having taken 12 days. In Minneapolis Mr. Olson found employment as laborer for the city and with the Rosehill Nursery Co.





EDWIN MORRIS.







On December 13, 1888, he with his wife and child, came to Wabasha County to work the Spotwood farm in Mt. Pleasant Township for a Mr. Smith of Minneapolis. He drew but little of his salary, and after two years, his employer becoming financially embarrassed, Mr. Olson bought the farm, machinery and stock to save his earnings. In 1895 he sold the farm and deposited his money in the Merchants Bank of Lake City, which failed and he lost all his money. For 11 years he rented the James Lawrence farm. Then in 1906, he rented the Webster farm in section 27, Lake Township, and also an adjoining farm in section 21, the two together having an area of 325 acres, and he has since been engaged in operating this place, having a first class equipment. For his herds of Shorthorn cattle and Chester-White hogs he has thoroughbred sires. He has 11 work horses and a fine touring car, and as a highly successful general farmer he commands the respect of the community. He was one of the founders and is a member and director of the Farmers' Elevator Co., a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association, and a stockholder in the Security State Bank of Lake City. Mr. Olson's record as an American citizen is equally good. He has served efficiently in various capacities in town office and on the district school board, and during the recent world war took a very active part as township chairman of the committees organized to raise funds, leading his forces over the top in every drive, for which he received honorary tokens of appreciation from his fellow citizens and townspeople. In politics he is a Republican. He is associated as a member with various fraternal orders, including the Masons, Odd Fellows, the M. B. A., and the Equitable Fraternal Union, his wife also belonging to several. Religiously he was reared a Lutheran, and contributes liberally to the Swedish Lutheran church at Lake City, and all his children were confirmed in that church. They are people of a strong, rugged type, and have reared a large family, having lost only two children in infancy. The following is a brief record of their children: Ellen Marie, born in Minneapolis, July 4, 1888, died in June, 1889. Oscar Leonard, born in Mt. Pleasant Township, December 13, 1889, is now a farmer in Pierce County, Wis. Ernest Julius, born July 1, 1892, was drafted for military service, June 24, 1918, was sent first to Camp Grant, at Rockford, Ill., then to Camp Meigs, at Washington, D. C., where he received mechanical training. On September 1, 1918, he sailed from Hoboken, N. J., for England on the Steamship Navassa; was a member of the Mobile Laundry Unit, No. 321, Quartermaster's Department; crossed from Southampton, England, to France and was stationed at Beaume, where he served as fireman. He shipped again for the United States June 29, 1919, landed in New York; was sent to Camp Mills, L. I., and from there to Camp Dodge, Ia., where he was discharged July 19, and arrived home July 20. He is now working for the Jewell Nursery Company. John Edwin, born March 5, 1894, is farming in Lake Township. The above mentioned children, except Ellen Marie, were born in Mt. Pleasant Township. The next child, Martin William, was born in West Albany Township, July 3, 1896. He is with the Jewell Nursery. Annie Ellen, born January 22, 1897, is residing at home. Allan Francis, born March 8, 1901, died in June, 1904. James Lester, born March 2, 1904, is attending school. Mr. Olson's mother-in-law, who came alone to this country in 1902, resided with her son Ole until her death on November 25, 1913. Her remains were laid to rest in the Lutheran Cemetery at Lake City.

**Samuel Robinson**, who was a pioneer settler in Zumbro and Mazeppa Townships, where he developed a good farm, was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1827, and came to America in 1842, settling first in Sullivan County, New York, where, until 1856, he worked as a farm laborer. He then came west to Will County, Ill., where he remained for about two years, at the end of this time coming to Wabasha County, Minn. There were very few settlers here at the time, but plenty of Indians, and the land was nearly all wild, but a few acres having been broken here and there where a pioneer had built a little log cabin



in the wilderness and started to carve out a home. Mr. Robinson himself became one of these early home builders, buying 80 acres of wild land from the state in section 36, Zumbro Township (town. 109, range 14). Later he purchased and added to his farm 50 acres in section 16, town. 109, range 14, and 10 acres in section 31, town. 109, range 13, these two latter tracts being in what is now Mazeppa Township. Through long continued industry he cleared and improved his place and erected thereon substantial buildings, and this he did through a long period of financial stringency without placing any mortgage or incumbrance on the property. Politically he was a strong Democrat. In 1859, the year following his advent in the county, Mr. Robinson married Elizabeth Bailey, who was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1831, but who was of Scotch ancestry, as he also was. Their happy married life was terminated by Mr. Robinson's death on October 1, 1900. Mrs. Robinson survived him a number of years, passing away October 18, 1916, at the age of 82. He was reared a Presbyterian, but never affiliated with any church after coming to this country. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson were the parents of five children, all born on the farm, namely: Andrew B., born in 1860, who died unmarried June 4, 1882; Thomas, born in 1861, now a retired farmer in Rochester, Minn.; John, born in 1862, a prosperous farmer at Hammond, this county; Robert, born in 1865, now a carpenter in Winona; and Phebe, now Mrs. R. F. Wahler of Winona.

**John Robinson**, proprietor of one of the largest farms in Zumbro Township, containing 1,070 acres, is engaged extensively in diversified farming and stock raising, being one of the leaders in this line of industry in Wabasha County. He was born in Zumbro Township, October 15, 1862, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Robinson, pioneers of this county, who settled in the township in 1858. Here he attended district school. From the age of 16 to that of 19 he was a pupil in the high school at Rochester, Minn., and afterwards a student for four years in the University of Minnesota. During a period of seven years he taught school in this county, having to earn the money to pay his expenses through college. On leaving the university he returned to the home farm, where he remained until 1887. He then began farming for himself, in the fall of that year buying 80 acres of improved land in Zumbro Township not far from the paternal homestead. The success he attained was extraordinary, for in less than eight years, by 1905, he had acquired 1,070 acres all in one tract; and in addition to that, he now owns 160 acres of unbroken land in Bowman County, N. D., and 320 acres of wild land timbered with hardwood, of which 160 acres are in Roseau County and 160 in Cass County, Minn. Up to 1896 Mr. Robinson raised principally wheat, but since that time he has done diversified farming, operating the 1,070 acres in Zumbro Township. On this farm he has four complete sets of buildings and a full equipment of teams, tractors, gas engines and tools and implements of modern type. He keeps on an average of 150 head of high grade Durham cattle, and 120 to 150 Poland-China swine, milking 50 cows on his various farms. These facts speak for themselves and show that Mr. Robinson is a man accustomed to do things on a large scale and achieve success. As though this were not enough to keep him occupied, he is also a builder and has worked more or less at that occupation for the past 35 years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Bank of Hammond, also in the Hammond State Bank, of which he is one of the directors, and a stockholder in the Hammond Telephone Co., the Hammond Creamery Co., and the Hammond Co-operative General Store. During the war with Germany he showed both the business ability and his sound American patriotism as member and chairman of several committees organized for war work, including the Liberty Loan, Red Cross and Y. M. C. A., every one of the drives going "over the top." These drives took in the villages of Zumbro and Hammond, and also Gilford, Hyde Park and Zumbro Townships, the result forming a splendid record that will remain a bright page in local history. A Republican in politics, he has served his township in many offices and from 1901 to 1905 was treasurer



of Wabasha County. During that time he and his family resided in Wabasha City. Mr. Robinson is fraternally affiliated with the Blue Lodge of Masons (No. 83) at Mazeppa; Hope Chapter, R. A. M., No. 12, of Lake City; Osman Temple, N. M. S., of St. Paul; the lodges of Red Men and Modern Samaritans of Wabasha, and the Odd Fellows' lodge at Oronoco. He is a supporter of the South Troy M. E. church, of which his wife and elder children are attendants. Mr. Robinson was married April 20, 1888, to Lucie F. Everett, who was born in Zumbro Township September 26, 1869, daughter of George C. and Mary (Arnold) Everett. He and his wife have had nine children, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Marion, born August 3, 1890; Laura Beth, December 21, 1891; Tina Evelyn, February 17, 1893; John Everett, July 19, 1894; Emerson R., July 30, 1899; Lucille Esther, November 18, 1907. Marion, who died March 4, 1917, was the wife of George Youngs, a farmer of Zumbro Township. She left two children, Donald and Joyce, both of whom are living. Laura Beth is now Mrs. Frank Webster of Oronoco Township, and has two children, Mary Alice and John Arnold. Tina Evelyn is a student in the law department of Minnesota State University. John Everett entered the United States service in the late war as a member of Company H, 9th U. S. Infantry. In the St. Mihiel sector, October 3, 1918, he received five shrapnel wounds, and was in the hospital until November 24, 1918, since which time he has been in Paris on detail duty. Lucille is attending school. Donald Jones, born May 11, 1912, a grandson of Mr. Robinson, is a member of the latter's household.

**James Kirkwood**, a retired farmer who has recently taken up his residence in Lake City after a successful career in agriculture, was born in County Down, Ireland, son of William and Elizabeth (Cochrane) Kirkwood. The parents were well to do farmers, and had six children, of whom James was the only one to come to the United States. The others are still living in Ireland. James, who was the third born, landed at New York July 9, 1887, and came west to Minneapolis, where he remained a few weeks. Then coming to Wabasha County, he located in Trout Creek Valley, Pepin Township, and soon after bought 160 acres of land in section 31, of which 120 acres were improved. There was also a small house on the place. On that farm Mr. Kirkwood spent 32 years, engaged in general farming and stock raising. He bred Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine, from 35 to 45 cattle and from 50 to 60 hogs annually, and was also a successful crop raiser. He made some notable improvements on his farm, building a comfortable two-story frame house, consisting of an upright and wing, with other necessary structures, and always maintained a good equipment, including an automobile. For his stock he had registered sires, and his work horses were strong animals, kept in the best of condition. In the fall of 1919 he retired, leasing the farm to his son, William C., and moved to Lake City, where he now resides at 600 Lyon avenue. Mr. Kirkwood was married December 28, 1887, to Anna Hanna, daughter of William and Anna Cochrane of Glasgow Township, where she was born November 26, 1869. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kirkwood all of whom are now living, namely: Elizabeth, born December 26, 1888, who is now Mrs. Wright of Lake Township and has three children, Donald, Vivian and Billy; George Arthur, who is a mechanic living in Lake City; Lulu May, now Mrs. Harvey Lang of Lake City; William Cochrane, residing at home; Helen Josephine and Howard James, twins, of whom the former is now a trained nurse and the latter residing at home; Jesse, Alexander Nesbit and Anna Dorothy, also at home with their parents. William Cochrane Kirkwood was drafted for service in the recent war, May 28, 1918, and sent to Camp Lewis, Wash., and thence to Camp Kearney. On August 1, 1918, he started for New York to go overseas, but was taken sick on the train, and on arriving at New York, was placed in the base hospital on Staten Island, where he remained 11 weeks. He was then sent to Camp Upton, and thence to the Aberdeen proving ground at Aberdeen, Md., where he was discharged December 19, 1918, with the of-



ficer's report, "never absent from duty on furlough." Mr. Kirkwood and his family are affiliated with the Congregational church in Lake City, and he and his wife are prominent and respected members of the community. While in Ireland he was a member of several fraternal organizations, but has not reunited with them here.

**Charles T. Koelmel**, who has taken rank among the successful farmers of Greenfield Township, was born in the Village of Wabasha, Wabasha County, Minn., January 8, 1870, son of Nicholas and Mary (Lawinder) Koelmel. The parents came from Germany to the United States in the early forties, landing at New York. After spending some years in the East, they joined the tide of emigration to the Northwest, settling in the Village of Wabasha, where Nicholas Koelmel worked as a blacksmith for the C. M. & St. P. railway, and continued in that employment for the rest of his active period. He died June 7, 1902. His wife survived him less than two years, passing away May 7, 1904. They were members of the German Lutheran church, and Mr. Koelmel belonged fraternally to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Charles T. Koelmel was educated in the Wabasha schools. After beginning industrial life he worked for the Narrow Gauge railroad until 1893, and then gave his attention to farming, for two years renting the Pat. Ryan farm. In 1895 he rented the St. Jacques farm, on which he resided four years. In 1899 he bought 47 acres in section 13, Greenfield Township, built a shanty and began the cultivation of the land, which he continued for nine years at that locality. It was in 1908 that he bought his present farm of 200 acres in sections 13 and 19, Greenfield Township, on which he has put up a new set of buildings, besides fencing. He follows diversified farming and stock raising and has made satisfactory financial progress. Mr. Koelmel was married May 2, 1893, to Christina Nigg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nigg, and he and his wife have been the parents of eleven children: Arthur H., born March 18, 1894; Mabel L., November 26, 1895; Clara C., March 18, 1897; Margaret M., November 18, 1898; Nicholas, February 16, 1901; Walter, April 19, 1904; Addie, August 22, 1906; Veronica, October 10, 1908; Esther, January 21, 1910; Pauline, November 27, 1913, and Julius, January 14, 1916. Arthur H. was one of those American youths who fell a sacrifice in the recent world war, though it was a disease and not the enemy's bullets which struck him down. He was drafted July 26, 1918, and became a member of Company D, 54th Pioneer Infantry. On August 29 the same year he sailed for France, where he took part in military operations. He was subsequently attacked by influenza and died October 8, 1918, at Dellville Hospital No. 33, at 8:45 a. m. He was buried in the Orerville Cemetery grave No. 406; his number 4,069,721. It is the intention of his parents to have his remains brought to this country that they may rest in the home cemetery. Of the other children of Mr. and Mrs. Koelmel requiring special mention, Mabel L. is now Mrs. Peid Petroff, and Margaret M., the wife of Louis Mathias. Joseph Nigg, father of Mrs. Koelmel, was a native of Germany and came to the United States in 1843, locating at Dubuque, Ia., where he remained until 1861. He then came to Wabasha Village, Wabasha County, Minn., where he helped to build the first flour mill, and he subsequently worked as a miller until a few years before his death in 1903. An expert at his trade, he patented the "Big Jo" flour and received a gold medal at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893 as a flour maker. He was a Mason and he and his wife were members of the Episcopal church. Mrs. Joseph Nigg is now residing with her son Peter in the Village of Wabasha. There were 11 children in the Nigg family: Christina, Peter, Jacob, Katherine, Mary, John, Elizabeth, Frank, James, Sophia and Joseph. Frank and Joseph are now deceased.

**Paul Grass**, general contractor, and manufacturer of cement blocks, at Wabasha City, of which place he is a prominent business man, was born in Pepin Township, Wabasha County, September 19, 1869, son of Vincent and





KOELMEL GROUP







Anna Grass. The parents were natives of Germany who came to America in 1866, locating in Pepin Township, this county, where they bought a partially improved farm of 160 acres. Both died about 1890. They had a family of seven children: Agnes, deceased, who married Stephen Free, of Pepin; Vincent, who went to Salt Lake City and is now deceased; Mary, deceased, who married Henry Stamschor, of Glasgow Township; Sophia, deceased, who married Clement Freese, of Red River Valley, Minn.; Frank and Christ, of Wabasha, and Paul, the subject of this sketch. Paul Grass was reared on his parents' farm, on which he resided until he was 25 years old. In 1891 he married Anna Lager, daughter of John and Christine Lager, of Pepin Township, and they began domestic life on his parents' farm, which had come into his possession through the death of his parents, he purchasing the interests of the other heirs. In 1894 he sold the farm and moved to Wabasha, where he engaged in cabinet making, an occupation at which he continued for seven years. Then in 1901 he began taking contract work as a carpenter, and so continued to 1910. That year he added cement work to his business, contracting in both lines. Four years later, in 1914, he began the manufacture of cement blocks for building purposes, which branch of his business has so flourished that he has now an extensive factory for the purpose on the west side. He continues general contracting, including all kinds of cement work, and his operations cover a wide territory. He has gained a high reputation as an expert workman, and his honesty and reliability are recognized by his fellow citizens, and have been large factors in his success. In politics Mr. Grass is a Democrat. He and his family are members of St. Felix Catholic parish of Wabasha. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Grass are: Vincent, Tina, John, Edward, Louis and Henrietta. Vincent and John both served their country in the world war and after returning the former took charge of the carpenter work, and the latter the cement work.

Wesley Kinney, a Civil War veteran residing in Lake City, and who has been engaged in the practice of law in Wabasha County for 54 years, was born at Otselic, Chenango County, N. Y., December 15, 1837, son of Ogden and Huldah (Warner) Kinney. He comes of New England ancestry, and his great grandfather fought and fell at the battle of Bunker Hill. Mr. Kinney's parents were farmers, and his preliminary education was obtained in the common school of his neighborhood. Subsequently he attended an academy at Charlotteville, Schoharie County, N. Y., and also one at Franklin, in Delaware County, that state. At the age of 17 he entered the law office of William Murray, Jr., at Delhi, N. Y., where he pursued his law studies for two years, afterwards continuing them in the office of Wait & Barry of Norwich, N. Y. He was admitted to the bar at Binghamton, N. Y., May 10, 1860, and the diploma he then received is still in his possession. In May, 1861, Mr. Kinney came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating at Mazeppa, where, during the following winter, he taught the village school. The Civil War was then raging, and, inspired with patriotic enthusiasm, Mr. Kinney enlisted in July, 1862, being commissioned first lieutenant of Company G, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers. He remained in service with that company until it was discharged August 1, 1865. During 1863 and 1864 he fought under General Sulley in his western Indian campaign, and then, being ordered south, took part in the battle of Nashville, went by way of Washington to North Carolina, and was in engagements and skirmishes under General Schofield while in pursuit of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's army through North Carolina, and was present at the surrender of that army at Greensborough, that state. After receiving an honorable discharge, Mr. Kinney returned to Wabasha County and began the practice of law at Mazeppa, where he remained for one year, in the fall of 1866 locating in Lake City. Here he has since practiced his profession continuously, with the exception of a few years at Mazeppa. For the last 33 years he has been city attorney of Lake City. While residing in Ma-



zeppa he organized and commanded DeVillo C. Ford Post of the G. A. R., and later became a member of Major Doughty Post of Lake City, with which he was associated until it went out of existence owing to the death of nearly all its members. He is a member of Carnelion Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Lake City, and in politics has always been a Democrat. Mr. Kinney has had an interesting personal career. In his younger days he helped to make the history of this country in one of the most bitterly contested wars of modern times, and he has probably practiced law longer in this county than any other member of the bar now living with the exception of Judge Putnam of Minneiska. At all times he has proved himself a useful citizen and a good American, reflecting credit on the stock from which he sprung. Mr. Kinney was married, August 13, 1865, to Acsie A. Ford, daughter of Joseph and Olive Ford of Mazeppa. She was born at Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., in 1846, and is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Kinney have been the parents of three children: Maud A., Alvin Claude and Kenneth Ford. Maud A. is residing at home, and for a number of years has been clerk in the Lake City post office. Alvin Claude, who was graduated from Minnesota University, and was entering upon a promising career, died in 1900 at the age of 27 years. Kenneth Ford graduated from the Chicago College of Osteopathy, and is now practicing his profession at Detroit, Michigan.

**G. Merrill Dwelle**, Civil War veteran, Indian fighter and merchant, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., March 13, 1835, son of Abner and Electa C. (Lawrence) Dwelle, who brought him to Kalamazoo County, Mich., in 1837 and with whom he came to Lake City, this county, in 1854. He devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted December 17, 1861, in the 2nd U. S. Sharpshooters, attached to the 1st Minn. Vol. Inf. as Co. L. He went south with his company, and served through the Peninsula Campaign under General Geo. B. McClellan. At the battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, he was wounded and taken prisoner, was later parolled, and sent to a hospital. February 4, 1863, while still in the hospital he was commissioned second lieutenant, and assigned to the 3rd Battery, Minn. Light Artillery, then stationed at Ft. Snelling, Minn. The surgeon, however, would not at that time allow him to make the trip, so it was not until March 15, 1863, that he reached his new command. For a time he was detailed with a detachment of infantry to act as guard on the steamers carrying supplies to Camp Pope, on the upper Minnesota. In June, 1863, his battery was ordered to Camp Pope, and from there joined the expedition of General H. H. Sibley against the hostile Indians, pursuing across the Minnesota and Dakota prairies. In October of that year Lieutenant Dwelle was detailed to accompany Gov. Alexander Ramsey as commissioner to negotiate with the Chippewas for the cession of certain lands in Northern Minnesota. In the summer of 1864 he joined Gen. Alfred Sully's expedition against the hostile Indians, pursuing them across the Missouri River into the "Bad Lands" of Montana. In 1865 he engaged in Devil's Lake expedition under Col. Minor T. Thomas. He spent the winter of 1865-66 at Fort Wadsworth, and in February, 1865, was mustered out, having been in the service four years and three months. During the Indian campaigns he had traveled over 3,000 miles, and in addition to the actual engagements with the savages has experienced many hardships with cold weather, blizzards, dampness and scanty supplies. Upon his return to Lake City, Lieut. Dwelle clerked for a while in the general store of Mr. Williamson, and for a while in the hardware and lumber establishment of W. A. Doe. Then he formed a partnership with George C. Stout, in the clothing firm of Stout & Dwelle. In the late eighties, his brother Henry Dwelle bought out Mr. Stout, and the firm became Dwelle Brothers. Henry Dwelle died in 1903, but the business continued under the same name until 1905, when the subject of this sketch closed out the establishment, and became interested with his son, Glenn M., in the telephone business. It is interesting to note that



despite Mr. Dwelle's distinguished war service, he did not receive a pension until he was about 75 years old. He was then granted one, with \$475 back pay, with which he and his wife enjoyed a vacation in California. Intensely interested in public affairs, Mr. Dwelle took an active part in the Republican party, and for one term served the county efficiently as register of deeds. He also did other civic service, and was highly regarded by all who knew him. After a long and useful life, he died at Melbourne Beach, Florida, April 9, 1915. Mr. Dwelle was married October 24, 1872, to Julia Patton, of Lake City, and this union has been blessed with three children, Glenn M., Florence E. and M. Grace. Glenn M. is a leading business man of Lake City. Florence E. of Lake City and M. Grace of Lake City.

**Glenn M. Dwelle**, well known in Minnesota and Wisconsin as a telephone man, president and manager of the Dwelle Telephone Co., and the Lake Pepin Telephone Co., was born in Lake City, this county, March 3, 1875, son of G. Merrill and Julia (Patton) Dwelle. He received a good education in the Lake City public schools, and as a young man was employed in a clerical capacity in the general mercantile business. In 1897 he inaugurated public local telephone service in this county by establishing central exchanges at Lake City and Wabasha, with home and business telephones in the homes and business houses of these two cities and the surrounding rural districts. In 1905 his father became a partner, and in 1906 the company was incorporated as the Dwelle Telephone Co. and the lines extended. Later he became interested in the Lake Pepin Telephone Co., operating in Pierce and Pepin Counties, Wisconsin, with central exchange at Pepin, Maiden Rock and Plum City. In 1917, the Dwelle Telephone Co. erected a fine modern exchange at Lake City. This building, constructed of pressed brick, is well equipped in every respect and will be adequate for its increasing business for years to come. Mr. Dwelle is an active citizen, and has taken his share in the development of the Lake Pepin region. Mr. Dwelle was married September 7, 1899, to Mary Satori, daughter of Joseph and Bertha Satori, early settlers of this county. This union has been blessed with four children: Joseph Merrill, born March 29, 1901, a graduate of the Lake City High School; Florence Lucille, born June 15, 1903; Bertha Mary, born July 12, 1906; and Margaret Julia, born September 28, 1909. The family residence is a neat structure at 422 South Oak Street.

**Cord Brinkman**, now living retired in Lake City, after acquiring a competence through agricultural effort, was born August 10, 1864, in Hanover, Germany, son of Claus and Margaret (Hoefle) Brinkman. The parents owned a small farm, but the father worked as a laborer. Young Cord was educated in the common schools, which he left at the age of 14, then worked as a farm hand until he was 20, and after that spent three years in the German army. On May 23, 1887, he married Anna Meyers, who was born in Hanover, June 15, 1863, daughter of Claus and Elizabeth Meyers. Three days later he and his bride started for America, and after landing in New York, came direct to Wabasha County, Minnesota, arriving here with \$300 capital. Locating in Gilford Township, Mr. Brinkman found work as a farm hand, and was thus occupied for five years. In the fall of 1892 he rented the farm of John Brinkman, his second cousin, located in the same township, which he operated for three years. After that until the fall of 1901 he worked the Claus Meyers farm, also in Gilford. He then bought 40 acres of improved land in the same township, which he operated until the fall of 1914, when he sold it, buying a 320-acre farm on sections 14 and 23, Lake Township, three and a half miles southeast of Lake City. Of this farm 145 acres were under the plow, the balance being in timber and pasture, and there was a two-story frame house, a frame barn and other buildings. There he devoted himself to general farming, keeping a good grade of stock, and having a good operating equipment, until 1917. By that time, his wife being in poor health, he made up his mind to retire, which he could well afford to do, having met with financial success, and accordingly bought a nice



residence at Central Point, Lake City, where he and his wife have since made their home. At the same time he leased the farm to a son-in-law, Herman Kreutz, who is now operating it. Mr. Brinkman became a citizen in 1893, and has since voted the Republican ticket. He and Mrs. Brinkman are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City. They have six children, namely: Margaret, born November 14, 1888, who married John Barttles of Zumbro Falls, and has two children, Laura and Margaret; Anna E., born April 27, 1890, who is residing at home; Martha C., born September 17, 1891, now Mrs. Harry Viete of Zumbro Falls; Bertha M., born April 1, 1893, now Mrs. Herman Buesler, of Lake City; Dora M., born February 19, 1895, now the wife of Herman Kreutz, and the mother of one child, Dorothy; and Albert H., born March 6, 1903, who lives at home and is a student in the Lake City high school.

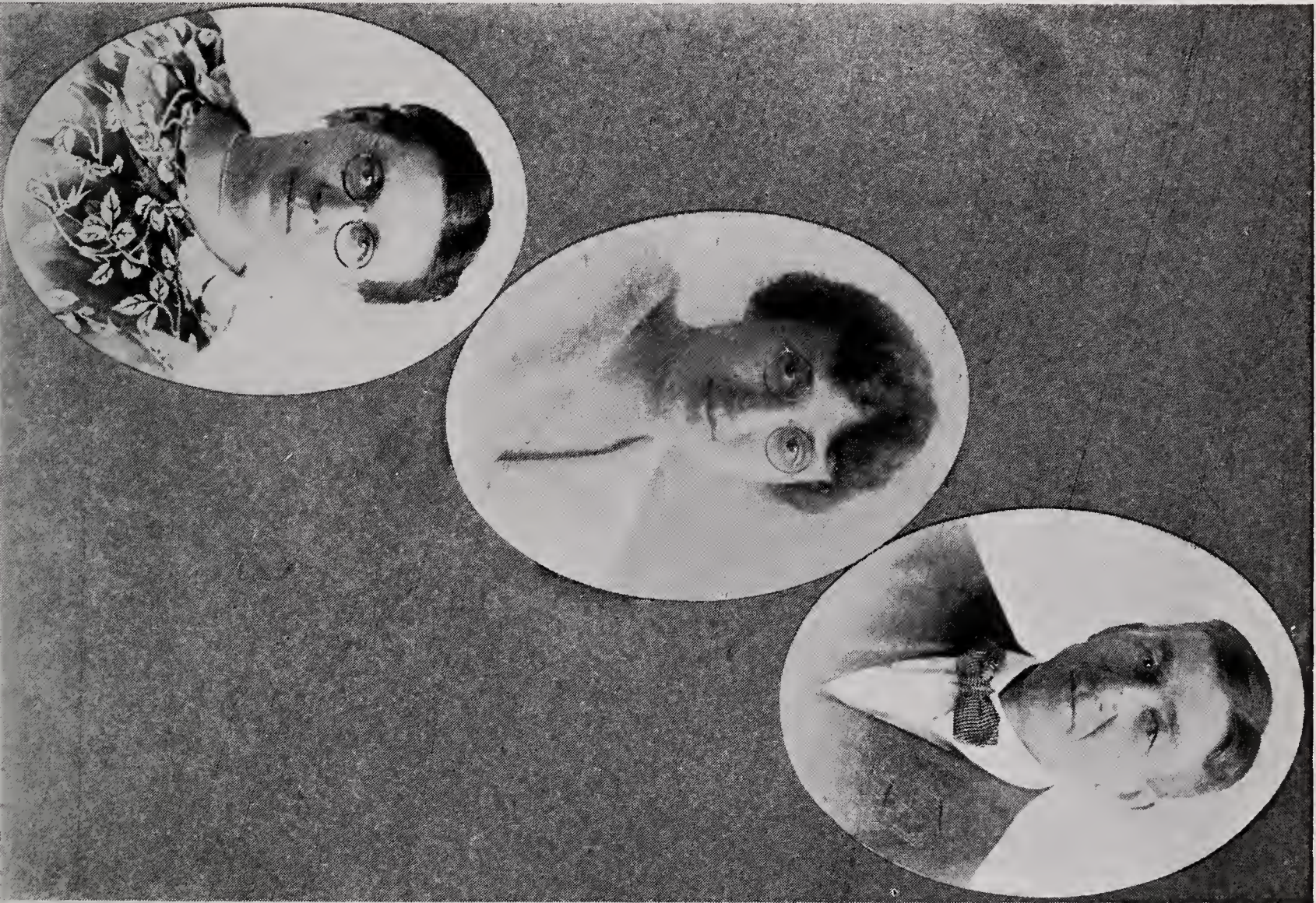
**Frederick Fick**, a former resident of West Albany Township, now deceased, was a typical pioneer of this region. He was born in Germany, where he married Mary Danckwardt. In 1855 he brought his family to the United States, settling first in Illinois, where he arrived with eighty cents in cash. There he remained for two years. Of the members of the family his brother-in-law, John Danckwardt, was the first to come to Wabasha County, Minnesota. This relative took a claim of 160 acres in section 10, West Albany Township, the locality being then or later known as the "Scotch Settlement," from the number of Scotch immigrants who settled there. In 1857 Frederick Fick came also with his family, making the journey overland with a "block" wagon of his own construction, drawn by oxen. He and his brother-in-law divided the 160 acres between them. But having little or no money, he first had to seek employment, which he found for the winter cutting cordwood on the Wisconsin shore, opposite Read's Landing. During the harvest season he worked for others at cradling, receiving his pay in grain, one bushel of rye or one bushel of wheat daily on alternate days, which he sold for 40 to 50 cents a bushel, that amount representing a day's wages. On his own tract of 80 acres he erected a pole house with a straw-thatched roof, which was occupied by him and his family as a residence until he later built a hewn log house, after which the earlier structure was used as a smokehouse. From this modest beginning, with the help of his wife and children, he gradually developed a good farm, the area of which he increased by an additional purchase to 240 acres. All necessary buildings were also erected. All this took time and plenty of hard work, but Mr. Fick was a good worker, and his wife and children also did their part. To each of the latter—four sons and one daughter—he finally gave a farm for a home or its equivalent in money. After a long and successful career, he died in Lake City, June 4, 1903. His wife survived him a number of years, passing away on the old home farm December 29, 1918. Mr. Fick was a man who "built better than he knew." In carving out his own fortune he laid the foundation for others, and today his heirs and descendants collectively own 4,233 acres of land in Wabasha county, their possessions being like a sturdy oak that has grown up from the little acorn planted by him 63 years ago. Mr. Fick was a handy man with tools, and the first chair he owned he made himself out of black walnut with a drawshave and axe. This chair is still in an excellent state of preservation and is owned and used today by his son, B. C. Fick, for a desk chair, being highly cherished by him.

**Bernhard C. Fick**, a well-to-do resident of Lake City, who has achieved marked success in several lines of industry, is a native of Wabasha County, having been born in West Albany Township, March 22, 1865, son of Frederick and Mary (Danckwardt) Fick. The scene of his birth was the famous "Scotch Settlement," in which his parents were pioneers. There he attended school to the age of sixteen, subsequently spending two winters in the St. Paul Business College, at St. Paul, Minn. After completing his studies there he was associated with his father on the home farm till 1884. In that year he came to Lake City and obtained a position as clerk with the grocery firm of Moore & Dobner, with





MRS. EDWARD WISE



B. C. FICK AND FAMILY



FREDERICK FICK







whom he remained until March, 1885. From their employ he entered that of R. Hannish, proprietor of a general store, for whom he worked until the fall of 1890. His next employers were Seely & Buck, dry goods and clothing merchants of Lake City, whom he left in the spring of 1891 to become clerk for Grondahl Bros., conducting a dry goods business in Red Wing. In July, 1891, having by that time gained considerable mercantile experience, he returned to Lake City and engaged in business for himself in partnership with Anthony Krall, erecting and occupying a brick block on Center street. The firm of Fick & Krall, general merchants, was continued for one year, at the end of which time Mr. Krall sold his interests to Edward Wise, the style of the firm becoming Fick & Wise. Five years later Mr. Fick bought Mr. Wise's interests, becoming sole proprietor of the business, and buying two stores across the street. As sole proprietor he conducted the business for fourteen and a half years, or until 1906, when he exchanged it, together with the store property, for 1,600 acres of raw land in Billings County, North Dakota. Previous to this he had bought 320 acres in section 1, West Albany Township, and to this property he now moved, establishing the "Mountain Ash Stock Farm," where he engaged in the breeding of full blood Percheron horses, being the first breeder of them in this section. After continuing in that industry there until 1910, Mr. Fick sold out to John Danckwardt, and once more took up his residence in Lake City, where he has a fine home at No. 423 S. Oak street. He is still breeding some full blood horses, but is also giving his attention to the real estate and loan business. He was an alderman of Lake City for two years, in politics being a Republican. Mr. Fick was married May 22, 1892, to Magdalena Wise, daughter of Edward and Anna (Kraus) Wise, of Lake City. Mr. and Mrs. Fick have had three children, the first of which, born June 3, 1894, died on the day of its birth. Of the other two, Clara Adeline, born August 10, 1898, is a student at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.; Lela Emily, born September 11, 1901, died April 19, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Fick are people of wide acquaintance and are socially popular. Both as merchant and horse breeder Mr. Fick made a fine record, and his activities have been a factor in the advancement and development of the county.

**Charles Henry Lorenz**, a well known young business man of Minneiska village, was born in Buffalo County, Wis., May 31, 1888, son of Ignatz and Elizabeth (Walter) Lorenz. The father of Charles Henry was born in Germany and the mother in Pennsylvania, the latter coming west to Wisconsin when a young girl. Married in Buffalo County, they resided there for some years subsequently, and then, in 1894, crossed the river and settled in Weaver, Wabasha County, Minn., where the mother is still living, the father having died in 1906. They had a family of eight children: Bertha, wife of John Becker, a farmer in section 34, Watopa Township, this county; Winnie, who married Albert Synder and resides in Idaho; Annie, wife of Ira Lowden; Louis, a resident of Weaver, who married a Miss Owen; Charles Henry, subject of this sketch; Addie, wife of Bird Gage of Minneiska; George, who married Caroline Beman and lives in Winona, Minn.; and Harry, who is now serving in the United States navy. Charles Henry Lorenz was about six years old when he accompanied his parents to Minnesota. His education was acquired in the local school and after entering the ranks of industry he followed the carpenter's trade for some four or five years. Later he became proprietor of a place of refreshment in Weaver, followed the same business for a short time in Kellogg, this county, and later for a longer period in Minneiska, to which village he came in February, 1915. He is at present engaged in the sale of non-intoxicating drinks, and cigars. His place of business was always conducted in an efficient way, and he has the reputation of a substantial and reliable citizen. Mr. Lorenz was married in 1909 to Louise Wolf, who was born March 22, 1884, daughter of Henry and Sarah (Brown) Wolf, of Minneiska. He and his wife are the parents of one child, Leo, who was born March 16, 1912. The family are members of the Catholic church.



**Joseph Gilcreast**, an early settler in Highland Township, was a native of Belfast, Ireland. When a young man he emigrated to the United States and made his way to Dubuque, Iowa, where he married Anna Kearns, who was from the north of Ireland. In 1862 he and his family came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and took a homestead in Highland Township, on which they lived until the death of Mrs. Gilcreast in 1875. Mr. Gilcreast then went back to Iowa, where he resided until his death about 1904. He and his wife had nine children, a partial record including Joseph, now in South Dakota; Hugh, of Plainview, Minn.; Mary, who lives in Spokane, Wash.; Thomas, residing near Plainview; Lizzie, deceased; Anna, the wife of J. Slack, of Spokane, Wash.; Frances, a resident of Iowa, and John, now living in Kellogg.

**John Gilcreast**, a retired farmer residing in Kellogg, is a well known and respected citizen who has spent many years in Wabasha County. He was born at Dubuque, Iowa, July 24, 1859, son of Joseph and Anna (Kearns) Gilcreast, and accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1862. When old enough he attended the district school, residing at home until he was 14 years old. About that time, or on the death of his mother in 1875, he went back to Iowa, where he lived with his maternal grandparents until 1884, being employed, after beginning industrial life, in railroad construction work. He then returned to Wabasha County and engaged in farming, buying 160 acres in the town of Glasgow. There he resided; actively engaged in general farming, until the fall of 1915, when he retired and took up his residence in Kellogg. He was married May 31, 1892, to Catherine Peters, daughter of Adam and Johanna (Lehnertz) Peters. Her parents were natives of Prussia, Germany, and came to the United States in 1854, first locating in Michigan. Thence they removed to Iowa, and later to Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, where they homesteaded the farm now owned by their son John. They had a family of eleven children, nine of whom grew to maturity, those now living being Garrett, Katherine, Margaret, Eva, Peter J., Theodore and John. Mr. and Mrs. John Gilcreast have had four children; two of whom, Elmer and Edward, are now deceased. The living are Francis and Gertrude. Francis married Lillian Wagner, daughter of Gottlieb Wagner, of Kellogg, and has two children, a son and daughter. He is manager of a garage in Kellogg. Mr. Gilcreast and his family are Catholics in religion. He belongs also to the Modern Woodmen and the Equitable Fraternal Union, and is a stockholder in the local Telephone Company.

**Robert Goggin**, who came to Wabasha County 30 years ago, and who is now proprietor of a nice farm of 160 acres in section 25, Watopa Township, was born in the town of Hartland, McHenry County, Illinois, in 1858, son of Robert and Ellen (Callahan) Goggin. The parents were natives of Ireland, but were married in Illinois, where the father engaged in farming, and where also he spent the rest of his life. After his death the surviving members of the family migrated in a wagon to Steele County, Minnesota, where the mother died about 1889. Of the three children, one, Edward, died in Steele County; the only daughter, Julia, is now Mrs. James Griffin, of Wabasha, Minn., and the third is the subject of this sketch. After coming to Wabasha County Robert Goggin (Jr.) worked 14 years on the railroad as section hand. He then began farming, first at Glasgow, then near Lake City, later for two years in Gillford, then for four years in Greenfield Township, near Kellogg. In the spring of 1915 he came to his present farm, on which he has built a barn 40 by 18 feet, with a stable and cow barn attached, has installed a windmill, and improved the house. He is engaged in general farming. His land is somewhat rough, but the farm is beautifully situated on the table-land, commanding a fine view, and he is making steady progress. Mr. Goggin was first married in 1889 to Mary McKeefrey, who was born and died in Wabasha, Minn. She left three children; Edward, Robert and Nellie E., all of whom are now living. Mr. Goggin was married secondly on May 3, 1904, to Kate Conners, who was born at Read's Landing,



Wabash County, Minn., daughter of James and Mary (Fitzgerald) Conners. Of this second marriage one child, John, was born March 23, 1905, who is residing with his parents and already has a practical acquaintance with most of the details of agricultural work. The family are members of the Catholic church and are numbered among those who are helping to build up the resources of Wabasha County, now celebrated for the enterprise and wealth of its farmers, and the beauty of the farms.

**William S. Putnam**, who for some years operated a farm of 170 acres lying partly in Watopa Township, was born in New York State, March 15, 1857, son of Nahum and Elizabeth (Ingersol) Putnam. When a boy he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, with his parents and was educated in the Plainview village school. After remaining at home until 1877, he began working out, doing farm labor in Wabasha County until 1881. He then went to North Dakota, where he worked for his brother for a while. Having taken a claim of 160 acres in Dickey County, that state, he proved it up in 1885, and later took a homestead of 160 acres in the same county, making a total of 320 acres. In 1885 Mr. Putnam moved his family to North Dakota and there resided until 1889, when he sold his farm and returned to Wabasha County, Minnesota. After that, until 1892, he was engaged in farm labor for others. He began agricultural operations for himself again by renting a small farm in Highland Township, afterward's rented the Geister farm for a while, and in 1898 bought 80 acres in section 25, Watopa Township. Later he added to his farm by purchasing 90 acres in Minneiska Township, making a total of 170 acres, on which he built a house, barn and outbuildings. He followed general farming and stock raising here until 1905, when he went to St. Louis, and subsequently from there to Baltimore, where he was killed May 30, 1906. Mr. Putnam was a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Wabasha County, and also of the Modern Woodmen of America. Religiously he was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. He was married November 1, 1881, to Rose Stadler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Stadler of Watopa Township. Five children were the issue of this marriage, namely: Frank M., born July 27, 1882, who died in infancy; George E., born December 11, 1883, who now owns the home farm, his mother keeping house for him; Wallace C., born October 7, 1886, who resides near Beaver, Minn.; Myrtle M., born May 7, 1891, who married Walter Timm; and Violet M., born May 1, 1895, who is the wife of John Gage of Trout Valley. Mrs. Putnam owns 40 acres in section 34, which is operated by her son, George E. Putnam.

**John M. Peterson**, who owns and operates a farm of 440 acres in Watopa Township, was born in Sweden, December 10, 1849, son of Peter and Kate (Paulson) Peterson. He was educated in his native land and remained there until 1868, when, at the age of 19 years, he emigrated to the United States. First settling in Illinois, he resided there until 1878, being employed in the coal mines. Then coming to Wabasha County, Minnesota, he engaged for a short time in farm work here, subsequently returning to Illinois. Soon, however, he came back to Wabasha County, and in 1904 began farming for himself, buying 120 acres of land in section 27, Watopa Township. Later he purchased more and has since brought his farm up to an area of 440 acres, lying in sections 22, 27 and 34. His farm is supplied with adequate buildings, and he is successfully following general farming and stock raising, through industry, practical knowledge and perseverance, making good financial progress. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Peterson was married December 30, 1882, to Elizabeth Amond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Amond, her parents being natives of Switzerland who came to this country in 1873, locating in Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, where they engaged in agriculture. The father, George Amond, died July 28, 1915, and his widow is now residing in the city of Winona. They had fourteen children, of whom seven are now living, namely, Elizabeth, Anna, Jake, Bertha, Mary, Emma and Minnie. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson six children have been born: John E., November 17,



1883; Albert M., May 25, 1885; Emma L., August 13, 1886; George E., July 4, 1894; Charles A., March 2, 1900, and Andrew, March 28, 1906.

**John Gage**, one of the notable pioneers of Wabasha County, who passed away some 20 years ago, was a native of Enfield, New Hampshire, where his father was a contractor for barrel staves. At an early age John became his father's assistant. After reaching manhood he married Eleanor Probasco, who was born in New Jersey of Holland Dutch ancestry, and was reared in the Dutch Reformed church. John Gage and wife took a farm in the Genessee Valley, New York State, where they remained until 1855. About that time there was a considerable migration to the Northwest, and Mr. Gage resolved to investigate the opportunities for obtaining new and virgin land whereon to build a home. Accordingly he set out for Minnesota, driving a team all the way, and on arriving in Wabasha County, pre-empted a tract in section 35, Whitewater Valley, Watopa Township. This done, he sent for his wife and family, who arrived in the following year. Soon he bought more land in section 36, and from time to time increased his holdings until he had in all about 1,100 acres of rather rough land. His first home here was a log house which he built in section 35, but at a later date he erected a good-sized, substantial brick house of two stories, in the same section, which is now occupied by his son Warren, and is still, perhaps, the most pretentious building in the vicinity. In erecting this structure he followed the example of two of his neighbors, Henry Hopkins and William Weaver, all three building large brick houses, the cost of which, however, they found a heavy drain on their resources. Besides farming, John Gage entered into contracting of various kinds, building the first wing dam on the upper Mississippi river, and also several sections of the Winona & St. Paul railroad, his sons helping to carry on the farm. He was also an active worker in the ranks of the Republican party, and one of its leaders in his district. His activities in this direction led to his election as representative to the state legislature, in which he served in the session of 1869-70. In 1895 he suffered a bereavement in the death of his wife, whom he survived but a few years, his own death occurring in 1899. They had in all a family of eleven children, of whom four died young. Those who grew to maturity were: Amanda, who was several times married, and who is now living in Portland, Ore.; James Edward, Charles A., Hattie, Warren C., Wells, and Herbert G. James Edward, who became a prominent grain man in Minneapolis, died in 1908. He married Elizabeth Collier, of Wabasha, and left two children, John Charles and Joseph P., the former of whom is now engaged in the grain business in Winnipeg, Canada, and had the honor of being selected by the Canadian government to have entire charge of the wheat supply of Canada during the recent World War. Charles A. is now living retired in Page, North Dakota, to which state he went when a young man and took land. He married Ida Towne of Wabasha County, Minn., and has had five children, the survivors of whom are Wells, John and Susan. Hattie is the wife of Frank Towns, and resides in Valley City, N. D. She has a large family of children, among them being Myrtle, Warren, Wells, Ray and Marian. Warren G. is now a farmer in section 35, Watopa Township, residing in the brick house built by his father, as already mentioned. Wells went to Idaho at the age of 21 and engaged in the grain business at Genessee. At the time of the Spanish-American war, in 1898, he became lieutenant of a local company, and being sent to the Philippine Islands, served there for two years. He has since resided at Bellingham, Wash. He married Kittie Maynard and has four children.

**Warren C. Gage**, a successful farmer residing in section 35, Watopa Township, is a representative of one of the best known pioneer families of Wabasha County. He was born on his present farm January 9, 1865, son of John and Eleanor (Probasco) Gage, and has resided here most of his life, with but brief intervals of absence. On this farm he has made many improvements, but the imposing brick house in which he and his family live was erected by his father,





MR. AND MRS. JOHN GAGE







and has long been one of the historic landmarks in this part of the county. In addition to the management of his somewhat extensive farm, Mr. Gage is manager of, and a stockholder in, the creamery at Weaver, and is also a stockholder in the local telephone company. An influential citizen of his township, he is widely known as a man who has shown public spirit on all questions affecting its interests and the interests of the county generally, and his word is known to be as good as his bond. Mr. Gage married Ellen Rachel Powell, who was born on Long Creek, north of Plainview, in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, daughter of Henry and Hannah (Terry) Powell. The father and mother were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Indiana, but were married in Wabasha County, Minnesota. Their children were: Annie Maria, wife of Eli Guptil, and residing at Cotton Creek, S. D.; Henrietta, wife of Hall Stevens, of Chamberlain, S. D.; Mary, who married George Pretzer, but is now deceased; Ellen Rachel, now Mrs. Warren C. Gage; John, who is married and resides at Ola, S. D.; Charles, also married, who resides at Turtle River; William, residing in South Dakota, who has been twice married; and Hannah, now Mrs. Art Nesson, of Brookings, S. D. It will thus be seen that most of the members of the Powell family have followed the westward trend of migration, making their homes in one of the newer states of the great Northwest, where they are engaged in the important work of home building. Mr. and Mrs. Warren C. Gage are the parents of nine children, namely: Bert, born September 10, 1886; Grace May, December 4, 1887; John, July 10, 1890; Frank, November 28, 1891; Vera, June 23, 1896; Rhoba, October 6, 1897; Joseph, January 29, 1899; Eleanor, December 24, 1901, and Violet, June 8, 1906. Bert married Addie Lorenz, of Weaver, and resides in Minneiska. He and his wife have three children. Grace May is the wife of Wallace Putnam and the mother of three sons, two of them twins. John married Violet Putnam and has two children. Vera married Charles Bergler and lives in Winona County. Thus is the third generation growing up in and around the old historic home, which bids fair to stand for many years longer, being kept in excellent condition by its present occupant and his wife, who have no lack of youthful hands to help them in the routine duties of everyday life.

**John H. Paine**, who is numbered among the prosperous farmers of Watopa Township, was born in Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, April 1, 1888, son of Edward and Clara (Heaser) Paine. The father was born in Dover, England, and came to the United States in 1861, locating in Winona County, Minnesota. The mother was a native of this state. For a number of years Edward Paine was engaged in farming and stock raising in Mt. Vernon Township, Winona County, during the early years working for others. In 1890 he rented the Starr farm in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, and afterwards the Schuh farm for five years. In 1897 he bought 160 acres in section 23, Watopa Township, erected a full set of buildings and fencing, and was engaged in farming there until 1911. He then retired to Minneiska village, where he is now living. For a number of years he served on the school board of his district. He is a Catholic in religion and belongs fraternally to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Paine have had ten children, Kate, Frank, John, Gertrude, Veronica, Leo, Malvina, George, Florence and Rosella. George is now deceased. John H. Paine was educated in the district school and remained on the home farm with his parents until 1905. After that he worked out for two years and then returning home worked for others in Watopa Township until 1911. He then rented the home farm, where he is now residing, engaged successfully in general farming and stock raising. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Paine was married June 29, 1915, to Gertrude Fitzgerald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Fitzgerald of Weaver, Minn. She is one of three children by her father's first marriage, the other two being Lawrence and William, who are now deceased. Her mother died in 1896 and her father subsequently married Mary Donohoe



of Minneiska Township, of which second union two children were born, Mamie and John. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Paine have two children: Gerald, born December 14, 1918, and Neola, born January 27, 1920.

**Charles O. Foster**, an active and prosperous farmer, residing in section 34, Watopa Township, was born in this township July 13, 1885, son of Samuel E., and Alice A. (Murray) Foster. His parents have for many years resided on a neighboring farm, having settled here 36 years ago at the time of their marriage, and the family is now one of the best known and most influential in the township. Charles O. Foster's elementary education was obtained chiefly in the district school. Later he attended school in Plainview village for two years, and subsequently took a business course of one year in the Rochester Business College. He worked for his father until 1907, in which year he rented the home farm, operating it until 1915. He then bought his present farm of 120 acres in section 34, Watopa, and has improved it extensively by erecting the house, barn, outbuildings and silo. He is engaged in truck farming and stock raising, giving his chief attention to Holstein cattle and Poland-China swine, and his operations are being conducted on a profitable basis. For five years he has served as clerk of school district No. 82. Mr. Foster was married June 30, 1915, to Lena Waldburger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Waldburger. Her parents were natives of Switzerland who came to America in 1884, settling in St. Paul, Minn., where the father worked in a furniture factory. In 1894 he moved with his family to Wabasha, and now resides there, being a section foreman on the C. M. & St. P. railway. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Waldburger were: Lena, Margaret, Anna, Rose, Fred, Magdalene and John. Anna and John are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are the parents of three children: Elmer M., born August 1, 1916; Robert C., born August 6, 1918, and a daughter, born September 2, 1920. Mr. Foster and his family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Herbert G. Gage**, one of the best known farmers in Watopa Township, operating a farm of 360 acres in section 36, which formerly belonged to his parents' estate, was born in section 35, this township and county, September 14, 1869, son of John and Eleanor (Probasco) Gage. He resided on the home farm until reaching the age of 21 years, his education being acquired in the district school. Then going to North Dakota, he became associated there with his brother, James Edward, and for a while had charge of one of the elevators of the firm at Valley City, and also of others. In 1893 he went to Idaho, where for two years he was in the grain business for himself. On his mother's death in 1895 he returned to the old home in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, and took over that part of the farm which he is now operating as general farmer and stock raiser. He is also a stockholder in the local creamery and telephone company. Mr. Gage was married in 1897 to Sarah Arnold, of Rushford, Minn., daughter of William and Mary (Kelly) Arnold, who were pioneer settlers on Lewiston Prairie, Winona County. She was born in 1868 and died April 4, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Gage had but one child, who died at birth. He has an adopted boy, Murray Arnold Gage, who was born in North Dakota in 1909, and who is a son of Harry and Vyna (Roe) Arnold, the father, Harry Arnold, having been a brother of Mrs. Gage. The boy's mother died on the Gage farm in the spring of 1911. Both Mr. Gage and his wife were baptized in the Episcopal church. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. At times he has taken an active part in local affairs, and formerly served several terms as town assessor. His education has been improved by travel, and he is a man widely known and highly esteemed.

**Jonas Johnson**, who is operating a farm of 213 acres in section 28, Watopa Township, was born in Sweden, December 16, 1858, and came to America in 1864 with his parents, Ole and Anna (Larson) Johnson. They settled in Wabasha County, Minnesota, on East Indian Creek, Watopa Township, where Ole Johnson was engaged in general farming and stock raising until his death



in 1894. His wife died in 1864. Their children were John, Nels, Andrew, Ole, Jonas, Johanna and Kate, Lena and Christina, John and Nels being twins. Nels, Andrew, Lena, Christina and Kate are now deceased. Jonas Johnson was reared in Watopa Township and educated in the school of his district. He then worked for his father until 1882, and then until 1894 rented and operated the home farm. After that he lived at Oak Ridge for seven years, but in 1910 again rented the home farm of 213 acres in section 28, Watopa, on which he is still residing, engaged profitably in general farming and stock raising. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church and to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Johnson was married November 25, 1884, to Mary Jacoby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Jacoby, of East Indian Creek. Mr. Jacoby died in 1896, but his wife is still living and resides on the Johnson farm with her daughter and son-in-law. There were six children in the Jacoby family: John (deceased), George, Lizzie, Margaret, Hannah and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have had seven children, as follows: Margaret H., born September 1, 1886, now Mrs. Frank Shultz; Ella M., born January 9, 1888, wife of Frank Schultz; Harry J., born October 25, 1890, who is residing at Oak Ridge; Alfred L., born July 16, 1893; Bertha M., born December 27, 1896, who is residing on the home farm; Rudie L., born November 3, 1899, who died February 16, 1902, and Lester N., born December 19, 1901, who is residing with his parents.

**Alfred L. Johnson**, who ranks among the industrious and successful farmers of Watopa Township, was born in the village of Weaver, Wabasha County, Minn., July 16, 1893, son of Jonas and Mary (Jacoby) Johnson. The father, a native of Sweden, came to the United States in 1864, and proceeding west to Minnesota, settled in Wabasha County. Here he married Mary Jacoby, who was born in Iowa. They are now residing in Watopa Township. They have had seven children, Margaret, Ella, Harry, Alfred, Bertha, Leroy and Nelse. Leroy is now deceased. Alfred L. Johnson resided with his parents until 15 years of age, in the meanwhile attending district school in Winona and Wabasha Counties. After that, until 1915, he worked on farms in Wabasha County, and then took a half interest in a rented farm of 160 acres, which he cultivated. In 1916 he rented the Maloney farm, on which he remained two years, or until 1918, in which year he rented the John Johnson farm of 320 acres in Watopa Township, on which he is now living, and successfully operating, owning the stock and machinery. Mr. Johnson was married January 19, 1915, to Margaret Nepper, daughter of Peter and Mary (Heaser) Nepper of Minneiska Township, her parents being natives of Wabasha County. There were six children in the Nepper family, Veronica, Margaret, Katie, Minnie, Frederick and Mary, of whom Veronica and Minnie are now deceased. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred L. Johnson are: Leroy F., born July 17, 1916; Veronica C., born September 7, 1917, and Loretta M., born June 27, 1919. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and his wife and children of the Catholic church.

**Patrick Lynch**, a respected citizen and well-to-do farmer of Watopa Township, owning and operating 359 acres of land, was born in this township, April 7, 1875, son of Thomas and Julia (Murphy) Lynch. The parents came to the United States from Ireland in the early fifties, settling in Wabasha village, and Thomas Lynch for a number of years worked on the river. He then settled on the land, taking a claim in sections 9 and 10, where he subsequently resided until his death May 5, 1907. He had made good improvements on his farm, including the erection of a set of buildings, and as a general farmer and stock raiser had been successful. His wife, Julia, whom he married in 1867, survives him and is now residing in Wabasha. They were the parents of 14 children, of whom ten are now living, the record being as follows: Hannah, John, Mary, Michael, Thomas, Patrick, Joseph, Timothy, William, Neil, Ralph, Morris, Abbie and James. Of these children, Mary, Joseph, Neil, Michael, Thomas and Timothy are now deceased. Patrick Lynch in his boyhood attended district school in Watopa Township, and at early age began industrial life on the home



farm. After working for his father until 1890, he started in for himself, buying 150 acres in sections 4, 9, 10 and 3, Watopa Township, and, having since made additional purchases, is the present owner of a good farm of 359 acres. He has followed diversified farming and stock raising, and being a good practical agriculturist, with abundant energy, has been successful. Mr. Lynch was married September 12, 1900, to Mary O'Flaherty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Coleman O'Flaherty. He and his wife are the parents of six children, who were born as follows: Dominic J., September 20, 1901; Leo S., April 20, 1903; Mary, July 7, 1906; Patricia, December 2, 1908; Marcella, January 14, 1911, and Ralph, June 6, 1915. Mr. Lynch and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he also belongs to the fraternal order known as the Knights of Columbus.

**Christopher Funke**, a Wabasha County pioneer now residing in Wabasha City, was born in Germany, August 16, 1836. He came to the United States about 1860 and soon found his way to Wabasha County, Minnesota, arriving here with a cash capital of four hundred dollars. For two or three years he followed rafting on the Mississippi; then, after leaving the river, he worked at grubbing for his brother Nicholas in Glasgow Township. The county was then but thinly settled and contained plenty of wild game and animals. One day Mr. Funke started out into the woods with his white bulldog and soon encountered a lynx. Both man and dog knew what it was and were anxious to get it, but Mr. Funke had no gun or other weapon, and the lynx got away, which was probably lucky for both him and the dog, as if cornered it might have killed them both. A few days later it was killed by Roscoe, a half-breed, and was found to measure six feet "from tip to tip." On June 9, 1866, Christopher Funke was married at Read's Landing to Wilhelmina Schierlitz, who was born in Preisen, Germany, March 28, 1850, and who had come to this country at the age of 13 with her parents. She, like himself, was industrious, and had worked in Wabasha for a Mr. Moore and later for Lucas Kuehn. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Funke made their residence in Glasgow Township, where he bought 160 acres of wild land on section 16, erecting on it a small log cabin. Later he built a log house of larger proportions. He and his wife worked together in the fields with oxen, which his wife drove, grubbing and developing the farm, and making such progress that after awhile they built a comfortable brick house. In 1883 Mr. Funke bought and removed to the Herman Witte farm adjoining his own, where he and his wife resided until 1917, in which year, having acquired a competence, they retired and took up their residence in Wabasha. They still own 270 acres in Glasgow Township. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Funke were as follows: Robert, a resident of Highland Township; Bertha, now Mrs. Nicholas Schones of Hollywood, Cal.; Augusta, now Mrs. August Fitzer of Minneapolis; Pauline, now Mrs. Hubert Hoffman of Highland Township; Lawrence Henry, now owner of the home farm; Louisa, deceased; Mary, wife of Jacob Schones of Hollywood, Cal.; Wilhelmina, deceased; Margaret, deceased; Frances, now Mrs. John Balow of Sabula, Iowa; Thomas, deceased, and Lovina, wife of Harry Hanson of Wabasha.

**Lawrence Henry Funke**, a prosperous general farmer of Glasgow Township, was born in this township, on section 16, February 14, 1876, son of Christopher and Wilhelmina Funke. He acquired his education in the common school of his district, and has always resided on the home farm, which he helped to develop, and which he purchased in 1917. It contains 180 acres and has a good set of buildings, and Mr. Funke is successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising. He keeps a good grade of Shorthorn cattle, and Poland-China and Chester-White hogs, and with an adequate equipment is making his property pay, aside from which he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Telephone Co. Mr. Funke was married June 30, 1909, to Theresa Harder, who was born in St. Paul, Minn., September 25, 1887, daughter of Charles and Anna (Arlt) Harder. Before her marriage she was employed as linotype operator by the





MR. AND MRS. CHRISTOPHER FUNKE  
LAWRENCE FUNKE AND FAMILY







West Publishing Co. of St. Paul. Two children have been born to them: Cortland Albin, April 18, 1910, and Lorain Chryscinthia, August 16, 1919. Mr. Funke was reared a Catholic and his wife a Lutheran. They affiliate with the Lutheran church, in which both the children were baptized.

**Cornelius C. Mahoney**, a well-to-do farmer of Watopa Township, residing in section 11, on a farm established at an early date by his parents, was born on this farm May 15, 1878, son of Cornelius and Mary (Ryan) Mahoney. The parents were natives of Ireland, coming from the northern part, and on emigrating to the United States, they stopped first at Dubuque, Iowa, where the father found employment for awhile. On coming to Minnesota soon after, they located first at Wabasha, and then, before the construction of the railroad, moved to Watopa Township, buying 160 acres of land in section 11, on which the subject of this sketch now resides. Here they carried on general farming during their remaining years of activity, the father dying in 1904 and the mother December 19, 1916. He had served as school trustee and taken an active and worthy part in the development of his township. There were seven children born to him and his wife, of whom five are now living: Mollie, who is a widow; Anna, who married Michael Maloney of Wabasha; Maggie, wife of Thomas Kent, a farmer of Highland Township; Nora, wife of Will Krause, a farmer of Greenfield Township, and Cornelius C., Nellie and John are deceased. Cornelius C. Mahoney acquired his education in the district school. He was reared on the home, on which he has always lived, and which he purchased after the death of his mother. It now contains 240 acres, and has a fertile soil, being also well supplied with substantial buildings and mechanical equipment, and Mr. Mahoney, as a practical farmer of long experience, is making it pay. He follows diversified farming and stock raising, keeping Durham cattle and Poland-China swine. For 13 years he served as township clerk, and is a member of the school board of his district. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Columbus, and he is a member of the Catholic church. On April 16, 1912, he was united in marriage with Nellie Leamy, daughter of John and Katherine Leamy, natives of Ireland and early settlers in this county. Both her parents are now deceased, Mrs. Leamy having died in 1905 and Mr. Leamy in 1909. Of their fourteen children twelve are now living, six sons and six daughters: Mary, wife of John Holland of Watopa Township; Katie, wife of R. C. Bamberry of St. Paul; Annie, wife of M. K. Bamberry of St. Paul; Maggie, wife of Thomas Pflang of St. Paul; Nora, who is the widow of John Mahoney and lives in Monticello, Minn.; Nellie, now Mrs. C. C. Mahoney; Thomas, a farmer in Watopa Township; John in Wabasha; and James, Michael, William and Joseph, who reside in St. Paul. Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius C. Mahoney are the parents of four children: Mary Helen, Cornelius Charles, Jr., Katherine Margaret and Rose Ileen.

**John Cleveland**, formerly identified with the agricultural development of Highland and Glasgow townships, was a native of Michigan, as was also his first wife, whose maiden name was Cora Hathaway. They settled in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, in the fifties and there engaged in farming, which Mr. Cleveland followed uninterruptedly until after the breaking out of the Civil War, in which he took part as a soldier, enlisting from Wabasha County and becoming a member of the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. His service lasted two years, and he then returned home and resumed farming in Highland Township, where he remained until 1889. He then bought 160 acres in section 24, Glasgow Township. On the latter farm he erected all the buildings and fences, and was successfully engaged in its cultivation until his death in 1913. His wife, Cora, died July 1, 1892, and in 1896 he married Jessie Chipman, who survives him and is now a resident of Wabasha village. Mr. Cleveland was the father of 10 children, six by his first wife and four by his second. Those by his first wife, Cora, were: Gertrude E. (deceased); C. Grace (deceased); William L., Jessie M., Charles P., and John. The children



by his second wife, Jessie, were Harold D., Esther M., Helen J. and James F., all now living.

**Charles P. Cleveland**, a prominent representative of the agricultural industry in Glasgow Township, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, September 13, 1880, son of John and Cora (Hathaway) Cleveland. As a boy he attended district school in Glasgow Township, to which his parents had moved in 1889, and also went to school for awhile in Wabasha village. After working for his father for several years he took up telegraphy, which occupation he followed for 14 years, being employed by the Northern Pacific railway at Tower City, N. D. In 1913, at the time of his father's death, he returned home and entered into possession of the home farm, buying the interests of the other heirs. Since then he has been engaged in general farming and stock raising here, keeping a good grade of stock, his hogs being of the Poland-China breed, with a full blooded sire. Mr. Cleveland was married September 15, 1909, to Charlotte Black, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Black, of Tower City, N. D., where Mr. Black worked at the blacksmith's trade for 14 years. In 1920 Mr. and Mrs. Black moved to Kellogg, Wabasha County, where he is now operating a shop. They are members of the M. E. church. Their children are Jessie C., Charlotte, Roy, Jennie and Bertha. Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland are the parents of three children: Pliny D., born July 5, 1910; and Gail and Dale (twins), born December 14, 1915.

**Henry and Christian Eggenberger** are well known business men of Theilman, where they are successfully operating a sawmill and are also carrying on other industries. Henry was born near Toronto, Canada, July 30, 1864, and Christian in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn., June 12, 1869. Their parents, Christian and Anna Elizabeth Eggenberger, were born and married in Switzerland, and came to the United States in 1854 on a sailing vessel, being three months on the ocean. Locating first in Buffalo, N. Y., they subsequently went to Canada, and in 1865 came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, taking 160 acres of wild land in West Albany Township, which they developed into a farm with good buildings. In the early seventies the father sold the farm and bought one in Glasgow Township, near Theilman village, and besides carrying on agriculture operated a sawmill. Industrious and enterprising, he was also successful in a high degree, and he and his wife were highly respected. They were members and liberal supporters of the German Reformed church in Theilman village. The father died May 2, 1902, and the mother January 25, 1910. Of their family of ten children, three were born in Switzerland, namely: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Bernard Korthour of Buffalo Gap, Custer County, S. D.; Emil, deceased; and Emma, who died on board ship while crossing the ocean. The children born in this country were as follows: John, a prosperous farmer and sawmill operator in Alberta, Canada; Emma (second), now Mrs. Leonard Seiger, of Buffalo Gap, S. D.; Rosanna, who married Dan Peterson, of Portland, Ore., and is now deceased; Henry, of Theilman, Minn.; Amelia, now Mrs. Frank Laqua, of Alberta, Canada; Christian, of Theilman, and Louise, wife of August Schleicher, a hardware dealer of Millville, Wabasha County, Minn. The two sons Henry and Christian were formerly associated with their father in farming and in the mill, and in time succeeded to the mill business. Besides operating the mills, they contract extensively for cement work, barns, bridges and other miscellaneous work, and are also successful apiarists. They are members and liberal supporters of the German Reformed church at Theilman, and are politically aligned with the Republican party. Henry Eggenberger was married in November, 1910, to Hattie Krahn, who was born in Pennsylvania, February 25, 1868, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Krahn. Her father was pastor for some years of the German Reformed church at Theilman, to which the subjects of this sketch belong. The two brothers are enterprising business men, and are successfully conducting an important industry, which is a factor in the prosperity of the village in which they have made their home.





MR. AND MRS. HENRY EGGENBERGER,



CHRISTIAN EGGENBERGER.







**John A. Knabe**, blacksmith and grain buyer, of Dumfries, Glasgow Township, was born in Trout Brook Valley, Buffalo County Wis., December 14, 1878, son of Christ and Anna (Bader) Knabe. He was educated in the common school, and his parents being farmers, he early acquired a knowledge of agriculture. In 1888 the family moved to the far West, spending two years in Utah and Colorado, but subsequently returning to Buffalo County, Wis., where the mother died in the following winter. In June, 1892, John A. Knabe came to Wabasha County, Minn., and here for three years he worked as a farm hand for John Simons. At the end of that period he went to Wabasha to learn the blacksmith's trade under F. W. Simons. Having done so, he took up his residence in Kellogg, where he worked three years for Nicholas Schmidt. In 1903 he came to Dumfries and opened a blacksmith shop here, which he has since conducted. In addition to carrying on his business he acts as grain buyer for the R. E. Jones Co. of Wabasha. He was clerk of School District No. 68, in politics being a Republican. Mr. Knabe was married December 24, 1902, to Edna, daughter of Louis and Jane Chipman of Kellogg, Minn., in which place she was born October 3, 1882. Of this union have been born two children: Leona Loretta, October 16, 1903; and William John, March 11, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Knabe are Protestants in religious faith. They own a comfortable home in Dumfries and are people well known and respected in the community.

**John F. Ring**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Glasgow Township, was born in this Township March 3, 1893, son of Martin and Sarah (Roan) Ring. His grandfather Ring was one of the pioneers of this county, coming here in 1855 and settling in Glasgow Township on section 20. Martin Ring resided on the parental homestead until 1898, when he moved to Highland Township, selling at the time 400 acres which he owned in Glasgow—a farm possessing good buildings—and buying 160 acres in Highland. He retired in 1898 and his son, George, now operates the Highland farm. He is now 58 years old, having been born May 18, 1862. John F. Ring worked with his father on the Highland farm up to 1915. He then bought 240 acres in section 21, Glasgow, a tract of land without buildings, which he has since erected. He also has 100 acres of his farm under cultivation, the balance being in timber and pasture. He owns a good operating equipment and is successfully carrying on general farming, his principal market being Theilman, three and a half miles away. Mr. Ring was married July 30, 1917, to Phoebe McMillin, daughter of John and Catherine McMillin of Theilman, Minn., and a native of Highland Township. Mr. and Mrs. Ring are the parents of two children: Francis, born March 19, 1918, and Rosemond, born January 19, 1920. Mr. Ring and his family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Joseph's parish at Theilman. In politics he is independent, voting for the man rather than with the party.

**John Riester**, the proprietor and operator of a beautiful farm of 240 acres known as "Grand View Farm," situated four miles southwest of Wabasha, in Glasgow Township, was born in this township February 12, 1863, son of Ottman and Magdalena Riester. The parents came to America at an early date from Baden, Germany, about 1856, and coming to Minnesota, settled in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, near the site of the present village of Dumfries. When quite a small child John Riester lost his father, of whom he has no recollection. He attended the district school and from early youth made his own way in the world. His farm, which he has himself developed, is now one of the best in the township. The surroundings are beautiful, and he has a fine residence provided with hot water heat and other modern conveniences; he has a good substantial barn, and his silo and outhouses are well constructed and in good condition. He has also an adequate operating equipment. The soil of his farm is productive, and as he is a hard worker with a practical knowledge of every branch of agriculture, he has been very successful and is now one of the well to do and prominent citizens of his township. He is a



stockholder in the Wabasha Creamery Company and the Greenfield Farmers' Telephone Company, in the latter concern being a member of the board of directors. Some part of his time has been given to public affairs, as he has served on the township board several terms and also on the school board of District No. 102. On November 21, 1888, Mr. Riester was married to Mary Laqua, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Laqua of West Albany Township. He and his wife have been the parents of nine children: Joseph J., born February 9, 1890, who died September 1, 1893; Leo F., born September 8, 1891, who is in the auto business at Kellogg; Genevieve M., born April 30, 1893, now Mrs. George Blue of West Albany Township; Rosalie A., born May 14, 1895, who graduated from St. Felix high school at Wabasha and is now teaching in Minneapolis; Herbert J., born August 9, 1897, who is married and resides in Minneapolis; Elizabeth G., born April 4, 1899, unmarried and residing in Minneapolis; Margaret J., born January 6, 1901; John W., January 18, 1903; and Rosanna A., August 27, 1907, all three of whom are residing on the home farm, John W. assisting his father. The family are Catholics and members of St. Felix parish. Mrs. Riester is a native of Wabasha County, having been born in West Albany Township August 7, 1861. Her parents came from Silesia, Germany, but were married here.

**William Hager**, who is engaged in operating the farm formerly belonging to his parents in section 16, Glasgow Township, was born on this farm September 2, 1887, son of Herman H. and Anna M. Hager. The parents, who were born in Germany, came to Wabasha County, Minn., in the early seventies and were here married. They settled first on section 12, Glasgow Township, but in a short time removed to section 16, where they took 180 acres of land with few improvements and no buildings. For temporary purposes they erected a small frame house and log barn, but later built a better frame house and other buildings. Here Herman H. Hager died April 9, 1912, having suffered the affliction of blindness during the last 20 years of his life. He was survived by his wife, who passed away February 6, 1920. Mr. and Mrs. Hager reared a family of seven children: Bernard, now a merchant at Dumfries; Louisa, wife of William Riester of Greenfield Township; George, a farmer in Greenfield Township; Herman, who died in childhood; Joseph, who died in 1909; William, the subject of this sketch; and Elizabeth, who is the wife of Henry Austin of Glasgow Township. William Hager was reared on his parents' farm and attended district school No. 25 up to the age of 14, except one summer, during which he remained on the farm with his brother, Henry. After the father's death he operated the farm for the estate until September, 1920, when he became the sole owner. He has a good herd of grade stock and follows diversified farming. A practical man in his line of industry, he has been successful and is numbered among the industrious and useful citizens of his township. He was married June 26, 1918, to Sarah Elsie, daughter of John F. and Etta J. Van Houten of Glasgow Township, but who was born in Knox County, Neb., April 2, 1899. The issue of this union is one child, Helen Elizabeth, who was born August 28, 1919. Mr. Hager and his family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Felix parish at Wabasha, he being also a member of St. Joseph's Society. In politics he is independent.

**Matthias Markus**, who for 30 years was engaged in farm development in Highland Township, but is now deceased, was a native of Luxemburg, and came to this county about 1875. Settling directly in Highland Township, he took land which was little or not at all developed, and spent the next and last thirty years of his life in its improvement, transforming it finally into a good farm. He died May 17, 1905. Mr. Markus married Christine Youck, who was born in Switzerland in 1865, and who had come to America with her brother. They had a family of eight children: Peter L., now a merchant at Dumfries, in Glasgow Township; Lena, wife of John Cook, a farmer of Plainview Township; Garrett, who is residing on the old home farm in Highland





MR. AND MRS. HERMAN H. HAGER  
WILL HAGER AND FAMILY







Township; Anna, unmarried, also living on the home farm; Margaret, now Mrs. Irvin Dietrich of Watopa Township; George and Joseph, both on the home farm; and Doris, who is a stenographer for the Goodrich Rubber Co. at St. Paul, Minn.

**Peter L. Markus**, a member of the mercantile firm of Hager & Markus, having a store at Dumfries, Glasgow Township, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, January 9, 1883, son of Matthias and Christine (Youck) Markus. He acquired his education in the district school and was brought up to farm life and labor, remaining on the home farm until the fall of 1909. In 1910 he went to Montana, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land near Glasgow, Valley County, which property he still owns. In 1912 he returned to Wabasha County and for one year operated a farm which was located near the old home farm. His present business was entered into in the fall of 1913, when he bought a half interest in the mercantile concern of Hager & Stamschor, of Dumfries, which thereupon became Hager & Markus. The firm keeps a large assortment of general merchandise and is liberally patronized by the people of the surrounding territory. Mr. Markus was married June 4, 1913, to Theresa Schmidt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Schmidt of Glasgow Township. Of this union three children have been born: Vera, August 9, 1915, who died July 24, 1918; Floyd, born February 3, 1917; and Wilfred, April 5, 1920. Mr. Markus and his family are members of the Catholic church. Politically he is a Republican.

**Henry Stamschor**, a respected citizen of Wabasha, now practically retired, but who was formerly engaged in agriculture in Glasgow Township, was born in Germany December 26, 1854. He came to the United States in 1874, locating first in St. Louis, where he remained two years. Then in 1876 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in Glasgow Township. His first seven years in the township were spent in grubbing for farmers, but that period came to an end in 1881, when he married Mary Grass, his first wife, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Grass, of Wabasha. He then began life as an independent farmer, buying 160 acres on the Zumbro bottoms near Dumfries. Later he added to his land another 80 acres, and developed a farm, erecting the residence and other buildings. After seven years Mr. Stamschor sold that farm to his brother Anton and bought 160 acres on sections 3 and 4, one mile north of Dumfries, the place being known as the Knute Johnson farm. To this he added 40 acres, and resided there until 1914, when, having acquired a competency, he retired. Since taking up his residence in Wabasha he has done some light truck farming in order to keep employed. Mr. Stamschor's first wife, Mrs. Mary Stamschor, the mother of all his children, died a number of years ago. The children were as follows: Anna, now Mrs. F. J. Meyer of Wabasha; Anthony V., a farmer of Glasgow Township; Agnes, who is residing with her father in Wabasha; Henry, a farmer in Wabasha Township; Joseph, a farmer in Pepin Township; Paul, who is manager of a lumber business, and also postmaster, at Waverly, S. D.; William, who lives with his brother, Paul, at Waverly; Andrew of Kellogg who is a carpenter; Margaret, residing in Wabasha; and Arnold, Clement and another, who are deceased. Bereaved of his first wife, Mr. Stamschor contracted a second marriage November 27, 1907, with Mrs. Elizabeth Meyer, widow of Joseph Meyer, and who in maiden life was Elizabeth Thyen. She was born in Germany April 7, 1859, and came to America in 1877, locating in Wabasha County, Minn. She was first married November 11, 1879, to Joseph Meyer, who was born in Iowa in 1857, and who came to Wabasha County as a child in 1864 and here received his education. On growing to manhood Mr. Meyer engaged in agriculture and had a fine farm of 120 acres, which, however, he later sold, purchasing another of 160 acres in Pepin Township. He subsequently bought other land until he owned 320 acres and continued in agricultural pursuits until his death on June 8, 1905. He was a prominent citizen of Pepin Township, which he served several



years as supervisor. The children of Joseph and Elizabeth (Thyen) Meyer were: Frank, now a section foreman at Waverly, S. D.; Henry, residing on the old home farm, of which he owns 160 acres; Theresa, who married Henry Schuth, a farmer of Pepin Township; Mary, now Mrs. Matt Koob of Glasgow Township; William, who owns 160 acres of the old farm in Pepin Township; and Katherine, residing with her mother and step-father, Mr. Stamschror, in Wabasha. Mr. Stamschror is a Democrat in politics and a Catholic in religion, being a member of St. Felix parish, Wabasha, and prominent in the church. While living in Glasgow Township he served on the town board for 10 years and for 24 years was a member of the school board of District No. 68.

**Anthony V. Stamschror**, proprietor of a good farm in Glasgow Township, which he is cultivating with profitable results, was born in this township December 13, 1883, son of Henry and Mary (Grass) Stamschror. He was educated in District School No. 68, in his native township, and remained on the home farm, assisting his father, until arriving at the age of 21. After that for two years he worked for others as a farm hand. He then entered the employ of William Wolfe, a merchant at Dumfries, and after two years, in association with B. C. Hager, purchased the business, which was conducted by the two partners under the firm name of Hager & Stamschror. In the fall of 1913 Mr. Stamschror sold his interest to P. L. Markus, and with his brother, Henry, purchased their father's farm in sections 3 and 4, Glasgow Township. In 1915 Henry sold his interest to Anthony, and the latter is now sole owner of the farm, which is well equipped with buildings, machinery and stock. Mr. Stamschror raised Holstein cattle, at the present time having 16 milch cows. His hogs, of which he has a herd of 50 to 60, are of the Duroc breed. The farm contains 165 acres, of which 100 are under the plow. As a part of Mr. Stamschror's equipment he owns a Dort passenger car. He is a member of the Non-Partisan League. For the last six years he has been a member of the school board of his district. Mr. Stamschror was married November 10, 1909, to Anna Stroot, daughter of Henry and Mary Stroot, of Wabasha Township, where she was born April 20, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Stamschror have been the parents of three children, one of whom died in infancy. The two survivors are: Eleanor Mary, born October 3, 1910; and Dorothy Elizabeth, born August 7, 1913. The family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Felix parish, Wabasha. Thoroughly skilled in all branches of agriculture, Mr. Stamschror has made good financial progress and is numbered among the substantial citizens of his township.

**Hugh McGowan**, one of the noted pioneers of Wabasha County, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1813. His parents dying when he was about 16 years old, he resolved to seek his fortune in the New World, and, having no money, worked his passage on board a sailing vessel to Nova Scotia, the voyage occupying many weeks. During his residence in that eastern province he spent his summers engaged in the fishing industry, and in the winters, as he had received a good education in Scotland, he taught school. In Nova Scotia he married his first wife, by whom he had seven children, one of whom, Patrick, was killed in our Civil War. After her death Mr. McGowan came with these children, in June, 1855, to Minnesota, settling in Wabasha County and taking land in Glasgow Township. About 1861 he contracted a second marriage with Ellen English of Greenfield Township, who was a native of Ireland. By her he had two children: Maurice, the present proprietor of the old home farm; and Nellie, now Mrs. Joseph Welp of Pepin Township. Mr. McGowan's second wife, Ellen, dying in 1867, he married in 1872 Mrs. Eliza Currier, a widow, who died in 1910. Mr. McGowan became a very prominent man in this county. It was he who gave the name of Glasgow Township, and he was for years chairman of the town board. He also took an active part in the county seat fight between Lake City and Wabasha. His death, which occurred February 6, 1896, was an event noted and regretted throughout the county.



**Maurice McGowan**, proprietor of "Oakland Farm" in section 8, Glasgow Township, which was established in pioneer days by his father, was born on this farm July 4, 1863, son of Hugh and Ellen (English) McGowan. He was only four years old when he lost his mother, and when he was nine his father married again, his step-mother having previously been Mrs. Eliza Currier. His educational opportunities were confined to the district school. Subsequently he worked with his father, helping to develop the farm, and in that way acquired in time a good practical knowledge of agriculture and stock raising, which occupations he has since continued to follow. He has always remained on the parental homestead, of which he is now the owner, and which he is operating successfully and with profitable results. He is a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union. A Republican in politics, he served as town clerk 13 years and as school treasurer 20 years, and is a highly respected citizen, both as the son of pioneers of this county and in virtue of his own personal qualities. Mr. McGowan was married October 21, 1896, to Christine Olson, who was born at Read's Landing, Minn., August 18, 1868, daughter of Even and Ingeborg (Eggen) Olson. As a girl she attended the public school at "Read's," subsequently took a high school course at Aberdeen, S. D., and for ten years was engaged in teaching. To Mr. and Mrs. McGowan have been born three children: Robert Hugh, August 8, 1898; Maurice Earl, June 22, 1902, and Irvin Donald, April 15, 1904. All three are residing at home. Robert Hugh spent one year in the high school at St. Paul, then entered the University of Minnesota Agricultural School at St. Paul, from which he was graduated in the class of 1918. Maurice Earl is a student in the Wabasha high school, and Irvin Donald has completed the eighth grade of the district school. In 1918 their home was entirely destroyed by fire, and at once they built a new modern seven-room bungalow. Even Olson, father of Mrs. Maurice McGowan, was born in Norway and there acquired his education, and grew to manhood. In 1861 he came to America and located at Read's Landing, where he was employed in various ways on the Mississippi river. In a few years he returned to Norway and brought back with him his fiancée, Miss Ingeborg Eggen, who soon after became his bride. They made their home at Read's Landing, where Mr. Olson entered the employ of the Shaw Lumber Co., of Eau Claire, and continued with the same until his death in 1874. Mrs. Olson died four years later. Their only child was Christine, now Mrs. Maurice McGowan of Glasgow Township.

**Otto Sanders**, the present proprietor of the old Sanders farm in Glasgow Township, was born in section 4, this township, October 10, 1876, son of Henry and Caroline (Sass) Sanders. The parents were natives of Germany who were married in Wabasha County in the early sixties. Henry, the father, arrived first, at Read's Landing, and for two or three years was engaged in rafting for the Knapp-Stout Lumber Company. He arrived in Wabasha County with nothing, but was economical and saved his money, and about the time of his marriage, when he gave up river work, settled on a partly improved farm of 160 acres in Glasgow Township, near Dumfries. The original buildings were log structures, but a frame house was later erected and occupied. There Henry Sanders died August 7, 1901, and Mrs. Caroline Sanders, March 6, 1906. He was never a very robust man, but worked hard and was ably assisted by his wife. They were members of the Lutheran church in Wabasha and liberal in its support. They reared a family of seven children: Alfred, now deceased; Hulda, now Mrs. Conrad Johns of Eau Claire, Wis.; Etta, wife of George Gillis, a farmer near Plum City, Wis.; Margaret, wife of D. Zevley of Minneapolis, Minn.; Otto, on the home farm; Lena, wife of Theodore Miller of Highland Township, and Emma, wife of James Safford, a dairyman at Port Atkinson, Wis. Otto Sanders acquired his education in the district school, which he attended winters, in the sum-



mers his services being needed on the farm. He became his father's helper and has always remained on the old home, which he bought in 1906, and has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising on his own account, his stock consisting mainly of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc swine. The farm, which is situated six miles southwest of Wabasha, has adequate buildings and a good operating equipment and Mr. Sanders is conducting it with profitable results. Aside from his interests therein he is a stockholder in the Greenfield Farmers Telephone Co. Mr. Sanders was married September 8, 1908, to Rose Elizabeth Wilde, who was born in Theilman, Wabasha County, January 7, 1890, daughter of August and Rose Wilde, of West Albany Township. Of this union three children have been born: Joseph Otto, January 21, 1911; Violet Rose, April 23, 1913, and Richard Donald, April 28, 1920. Mr. Sanders was reared a Lutheran but is a member of the German Reformed church of Wabasha. Politically he is a Republican.

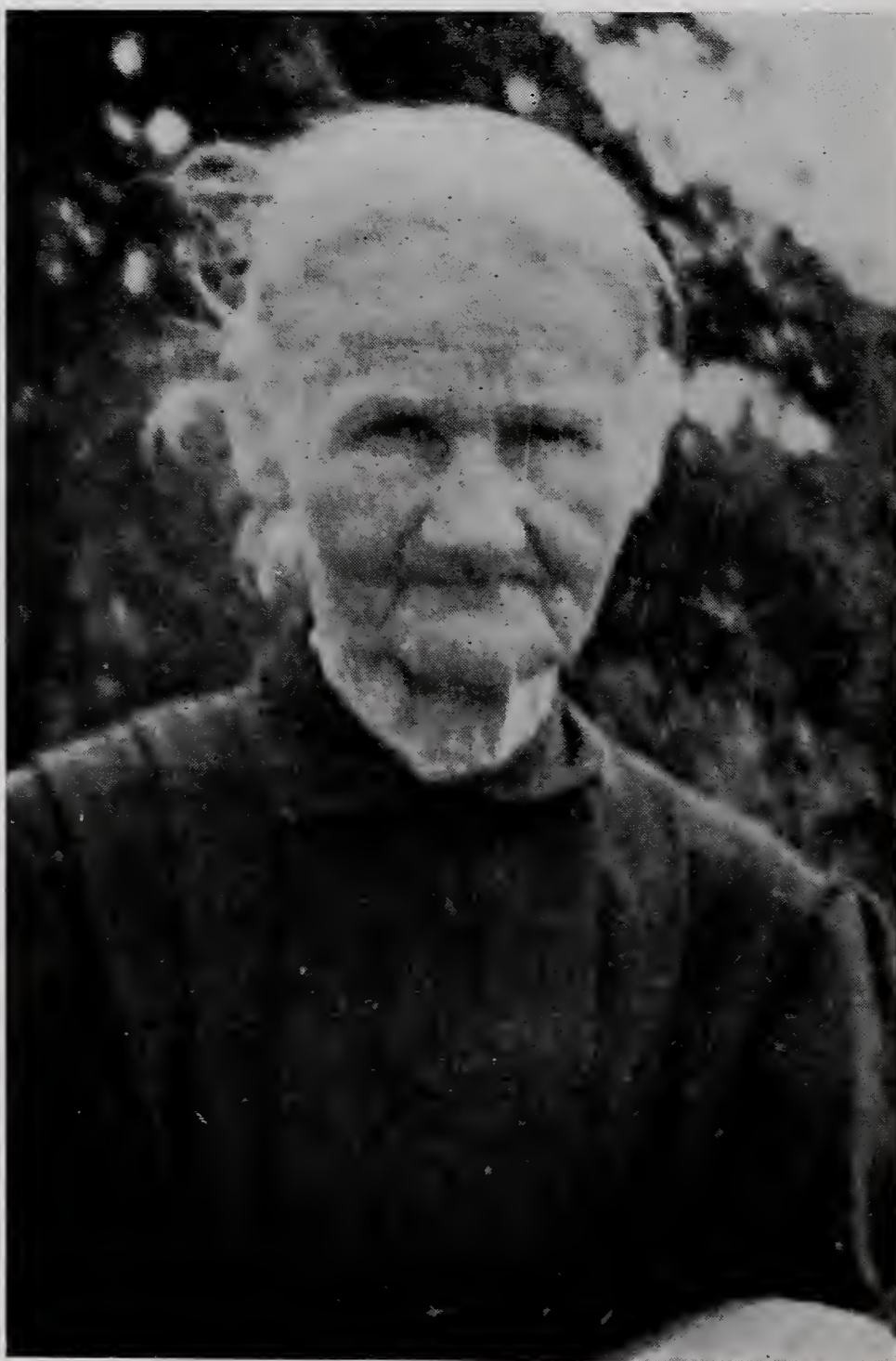
**August Evers**, one of the thriving farmers of Glasgow Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, October 10, 1875, son of Henry and Mary Ann (Hermes) Evers. The parents came to the United States in 1876, directly to Wabasha County, Minn., and were accompanied by two children: Caroline, now Mrs. Anton Schuth of Greenfield Township; and August. They settled on section 12, Glasgow Township, buying 160 acres of land, of which ten or 15 acres were improved. There was also an old log house on the place. There the parents passed the rest of their lives, the father dying February 9, 1892, and the mother, November 23, 1909. Their children were as follows: Caroline, already mentioned, who was born in Germany; August, also born in Germany; Henry, born in Wabasha County, October 5, 1877, who died October 16, 1894; Anna, born November 5, 1879, now Mrs. Garrett Wolfe of Greenfield Township; Joseph, born November 16, 1881, who resides in Greenfield Township; Anthony, born in April, 1883, who died in childhood; Mary, born September 16, 1885, now Mrs. Henry J. Meyer of Pepin Township, and Margaret, born May 9, 1891, who resides with her brother Joseph. The father, Henry Evers, had a successful career, working industriously to develop his farm. At the time of his death he owned 253 acres, and had a good frame house, besides a log barn and other buildings. This he gained by his own energy, assisted by his family, as he came here with very little in the way of capital to start with. He was a Democrat in politics but held no local office. August Evers was educated in District School No. 68, Glasgow Township, and has always resided on the home farm, to which he has added 40 acres, now owning 293 acres. To meet the necessities of his business and keep up with modern progress, he has erected a fine set of buildings with modern equipment, among them a good silo. He is giving his attention to general farming, principally stock raising and dairying, milking about 20 cows. His cattle are high grade Holsteins and his hogs of the Duroc breed and as a part of his equipment he owns a good auto car. He is a stockholder in the Greenfield Farmers' Telephone Co. and the Dumfries Hall Association. In politics he is a Democrat, but has so far held no office except that of clerk of his school district. Mr. Evers married Augusta Passe, who was born in Glasgow Township, March 5, 1883, daughter of Albert and Mary Passe. Of this union 12 children have been born: Leo B., February 16, 1904; Martha M., November 8, 1905; Laura J., January 18, 1907; Agnes L., July 29, 1908; Marion L., December 5, 1909; Marcella H., July 28, 1911; Albertine J., April 18, 1913; Clara M., August 9, 1914; Julius C., February 24, 1916; Bertha H., October 8, 1917; Irvin F., October 11, 1918, and Lucile R., December 25, 1919. Mr. Evers and his family are Catholic in religion, belonging to St. Felix parish, Mr. Evers being also a member of St. Joseph's society.

**William McCracken**, a pioneer of Wabasha County, who developed a farm from the wilderness in Glasgow Township, was born in Scotland, August 15, 1815, the last day of the battle of Waterloo. He was reared in his native









MRS. JOHANNA McCRACKEN



land and remained there until 25 years old, when he emigrated to Canada, landing in New Brunswick, April 1, 1841. In that province he resided for twelve years. In the year 1855 he joined the stream of emigration to the northwestern states, arriving in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., June 7. Here he took a tract of wild land in section 20, on which he built a pioneer cabin which was his home for many years. When he arrived here he was accompanied by his family, having been married March 24, 1847, to Magdaline Scott, a native of Ohio. They were to have been married in Canada, all preparations having been made, but when the minister arrived it was discovered that he had no license to marry in Canada, so they crossed over to New York State, where the ceremony took place on the same day. Mrs. Magdaline McCracken was of Scotch ancestry. By her he had five children, the eldest of whom, Ann, became the wife of William Jacobs of West Albany Township, Wabasha County. Another daughter, Hannah, married James Gray of the same township. The three other children died young, and the mother did not long survive after coming to this county, passing away on the home farm, June 14, 1857. In 1860 William McCracken married for his second wife Johanna Jacob of West Albany Township, a native of Germany, who continued to live on the old home farm until her death, July 22, 1920. By her he had nine children, three of whom died prior to 1882. The others were Minnie, William, Margaret, Jennie, John and Robert. Mr. McCracken was the first man to make improvements in Glasgow Township. By 1882 he had accumulated 560 acres of land, all in one body, and at his death owned 725 acres. His widow afterward added 40 acres to the estate, bringing it up to its present size of 765 acres. The narrow gauge railroad from Wabasha to Faribault was built through Mr. McCracken's land, and McCracken station was named for him. One of his children, Mary, was run over and killed by the cars previous to 1882. The children now living are: Lena, Minnie, Margaret, Jeanette, William, John and Robert. Lena is the wife of Henry H. Rahman, a farmer of West Albany Township. Minnie is the wife of Knute Utigard, a farmer of Oakwood Township. Margaret is now Mrs. James Lowe of Pease River District in Alberta, Canada, she and her husband owning a ranch there of over 1200 acres. Jeanette is the wife of James McFarland of McCracken, Wabasha County. John, Robert and William are on the home farm, of which each operates a portion, having separate residences, though the estate was to be held intact until the mother's demise, and which at this publication is still intact. Mr. McCracken was a prominent citizen of Glasgow Township in his day, at various times holding local office. Politically he was a Republican. He was a man of great energy and perseverance, and a good neighbor, and he will long be remembered as one of the hardy band of pioneers who laid the foundations of the present prosperity of this county.

**William McCracken**, a representative of one of the leading pioneer families of Glasgow Township, was born in this township, December 4, 1865, son of William, Sr., and Johanna (Jacob) McCracken, whose history as pioneer settlers and farmers in the township is elsewhere given. His educational opportunities were limited, but he attended District School No. 87 as he was given opportunity, and was trained to agricultural work on the home farm, being associated with his father until the latter's death in 1888. Here he has always resided, and he and his brothers, John and Robert, are managing the estate, which is to be kept intact during their mother's life time, each occupying a separate portion and residence. That operated by William amounts to 205 acres, of which 120 acres—all fine land—are under the plow. In 1918 he erected a fine modern two-story frame house with full cement basement, finished in the finest of oak and handsomely furnished. It is electrically lighted, and installed with a hot water heating-plant, pressure tank, and an elegant bathroom with the most modern plumbing, and is the finest



equipped modern home in Glasgow Township. He has also put up barns and outbuildings. The farm is well stocked with grade Shorthorn cattle and Duroc swine, and yields Mr. McCracken a good income, so that he is now rated as one of the wealthiest farmers in Glasgow Township. This property has been won by hard work and good management, of which it is the fitting reward. Mr. McCracken is a Republican in politics. He is a heavy stockholder in the Theilman State Bank. He has devoted some of his time to public affairs, formerly serving three years on the town board, and for 20 years having been clerk of his school district. He was married January 16, 1893, to Caroline Preshun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Preshun. Her parents dying when she was but six years old, she was adopted and reared by Mrs. Fred Engel of West Albany Township. Mr. and Mrs. McCracken are the parents of three children: Mabel, born October 24, 1894, who was graduated from the Lake City high school, spent one year at the Winona State Normal School, and is now the wife of J. A. Danckwardt of West Albany Township; Ruth, born May 12, 1900, was graduated from the eighth grade of the grammar school and is now residing at home; and Frederick, born March 1, 1905, who is also at home and is a student in the eight grade. Mr. McCracken and family attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church of West Albany.

**Thomas N. Huddleston, Jr.**, who is engaged in truck farming and poultry raising at Dumfries, Glasgow Township, was born in this locality May 13, 1892, son of Thomas and Sarah (McIllreavie) Huddleston. His education was begun in District School No. 68, Glasgow Township, which he attended up to the age of 15, and was continued at the Southern Minnesota Normal School at Austin, Minn., he also taking a two-years' preparatory course at Pillsbury Academy at Owatonna. In the two latter schools he studied music and became a fine violinist, subsequently playing four years in orchestras employed by the Strechfus Steamer Line on the Mississippi river. He also played with other musical organizations in various places. In 1914 Mr. Huddleston returned to Dumfries and engaged in his present business of truck farming and poultry raising, which he has found profitable. He owns a comfortable home in the village. On March 18, 1914, he was married to Otilia Creuzer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Creuzer of Wabasha City, where she was born June 11, 1891. One child has been born to them, Mary Dorothy, on January 2, 1920. Mr. Huddleston was reared a Presbyterian, but there being no church of that denomination at Dumfries, he affiliated with the Congregational church at Lake City. He is a member of Wapahasa Lodge No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha.

**Thomas Huddleston, Sr.**, an elderly resident of the little hamlet of Dumfries, is one of the oldest living pioneers of Wabasha County, and is a man with a notable experience as an early lumberman, Civil War veteran, and farmer. He was born at Westfield, Chautauqua County, N. Y., August 15, 1839, the eldest of the twelve children of David and Jane (Cochrane) Huddleston. His parents were natives of Ireland who emigrated to the United States in the early thirties, resided for a while in New York City, and subsequently on a farm in Erie County, N. Y. Then coming west to Wisconsin, they remained there a year, and then located near St. Charles, in Winona County, Minn. After farming for many years, they retired, and both died in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, the father in 1892 and the mother in 1894. Of their 12 children, seven are now living, namely: Thomas, David, James, John, William, Jane and Margaret. Thomas Huddleston was a boy of 15 years when he came west with his parents in 1854. The journey was made via the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, and for about a year the family resided at a point half way between Beaver Dam and Fox Lake, Wis. In the fall of 1855 they came with an emigrant train to Minnesota, being obliged to stop for a week at La Crosse on account of the limited ferry accommodations and the size of



the party. Other immigrants were also arriving, and the ferry proprietors issued numbered tickets, or designated each family by a number, and the family was transported across the river when its number was called. On a hill close to La Crescent young Thomas shot his first deer, and at once conceived himself to be a mighty hunter, which opinion was apparently shared by the other members of the party, for they delegated him as a committee of one to procure more meat, but unfortunately for his too easily won reputation, he failed to secure another deer during the remainder of the journey. In the fall of 1856 his parents settled on land one and a half miles south of the thriving village of Utica in Winona County. Thomas, himself, soon grew big and strong and went to work for the Knapp-Stout Lumber Company, of Menomonie, Wis., being engaged in rafting on the Chippewa and Mississippi rivers. Those were the days of romance and adventure, and he enjoyed them with all the capacity of a bold and adventurous youth. He remained with the lumber company two seasons, receiving \$13 a month and his board. In the year after he came of age the Civil War broke and opened up a new and exciting sphere of action for the patriotic youth of the land. Thomas Huddleston was among those who went to the front. Enlisting in the First Minnesota Battery, he was mustered into the service October 5, 1861, and spent a part of the following winter at Benton Barracks and the arsenal at St. Louis, Mo. In January, 1862, his company was moved to Pittsburg Landing, Tenn., aboard the Ohio River steamer "Himalaya," and assigned to Sherman's command, and not long after he took part in the bloody battle of Shiloh, known to the Confederates as "Pittsburg Landing." As readers of American history know, the first day's battle was practically a defeat for the Union forces, which were taken by surprise, and by night the situation had been saved from total rout chiefly by the desperate resistance of Sherman's command. Re-enforcements early the following morning turned the defeat into a victory and the enemy was driven back. Afterwards Private Huddleston was in action at Hornet's Nest, the siege of Corinth, the siege of Vicksburg, under General Grant, and still later fought under Sherman at Atlanta, and was on the March to the Sea, accompanying that great commander all through his victorious campaign. At the close of the war he took part in the grand review at Washington, one of the most notable occasions and grandest scenes in the history of our country, and was mustered out there not much the worse for the thrilling experiences through which he had passed. On his return to Minnesota Mr. Huddleston again entered the employ of the Knapp-Stout Company on a salary of \$75 a month, holding the same position that he had previously got \$13 a month for, and so continued for three years, in the performance of his duties following dim and half obliterated trails through the dense forest. At the end of that period he returned to Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, where on February 23, 1869, he was united in marriage with Sarah McIllreavie, of Reach, Province of Ontario, Canada, the pastor who united them being the well known pioneer preacher of Lake City, the Rev. Silas Hazlett, who founded the Presbyterian church there. Mr. Huddleston and his wife began housekeeping in Chester Township, where they resided for nine years. They then removed to Mazeppa, which place was their home until 1882. In that year Mr. Huddleston bought a farm in Trout Brook Valley, section 16, Glasgow Township, on the site of the present hamlet of Dumfries. He also branched out extensively in the purchase of land, acquiring over 700 acres in one body. In 1896 he moved from section 16 to section 10, where he and his family made their home until 1906, when he took up his residence in Dumfries village, where he now lives, owning a good residence property. He also still owns some three or four hundred acres of his farm land. He may be called the father of the village, as it was through his influence and efforts that it was founded and a post office established, the post office, however, being discontinued on the coming of the railroad. The village now possesses a store, town hall, black-



smith's shop, and other buildings. It was here that Mr. Huddleston's wife died on December 5, 1917. Besides doing all he could to advance the interests of the little settlement, Mr. Huddleston served for a number of years on the Glasgow town board. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at Mazeppa, and in religion is a Presbyterian. He and his wife were the parents of 12 children, namely: John, Catherine, Alexander (first), Samuel, William, Sarah, Julia, Alexander (second), Grace, Mary, Edna, and Thomas Neil, Jr. Of these children, John, Alexander (first), Samuel and William are deceased. Catherine, who is unmarried, resides at home with her father. Sarah is now Mrs. A. J. Henze of Minneapolis. Julia is the wife of John Duffus of West Albany Township. Grace is the wife of Albert Zillgitt of Lake City. Mary is the wife of Ben E. Fick of Lake City. Edna is the wife of Daniel Slauson of Dumfries. Mr. Huddleston's career has been contemporaneous with that of Wabasha County. As a boy he saw it in its infancy; later watched it developing its rich resources, as he himself developed into ripe manhood, and now in the evening of his life he is spared to witness its fullness of achievement as an organized part of the great commonwealth to which it belongs. In that wonderful growth and development he, himself, took an active part, and the life of ease and leisure he now enjoys has been well earned.

**John A. Martin**, proprietor of a highly improved farm of 160 acres in section 33, West Albany Township, was born in Olmsted County, Minn., (near Rochester), March 22, 1875, son of John and Susan (McCain) Martin. The father was a native of Ireland, born in 1828; the mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1847. The former, John Martin, after coming to this country, resided first in Pennsylvania, from which state he removed to Wisconsin. After the breaking out of the Civil War he joined the Sixteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, with which he saw service. Coming to Minnesota after the war, he settled near Rochester when there were very few houses there, and he and his wife, Susan, were married in this state. They settled on a farm of 240 acres in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, which they developed into one of the best farms in the county, and there Mrs. Susan Martin is still living. Her husband died May 31, 1914. It was there that their son, John A., was reared to manhood, attending the district school to the age of 15 or 16, and there he remained until the year 1899, when he was married to Hulda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schuchard, of Bremen, Wabasha County, where she was born February 23, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Martin began housekeeping on the Patsy Fox farm in section 33, West Albany Township, but in the same spring Mr. Martin bought his present farm of 160 acres, which had no buildings at the time, though 120 acres of the land had been grubbed and cleared. He has since built a good frame house, two good barns and other necessary buildings, and has 140 acres of the land under cultivation. The house is lighted by gas, and everything about the place is in excellent condition. Mr. Martin's equipment, includes a fine "Dort" auto car. The farm, which lies 12 miles southwest of Lake City and four miles north of Millville, is well stocked with grade Durham cattle and Poland-China swine, and Mr. Martin successfully follows general farming, keeping usually milch cows. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator at Millville. Politically a Democrat, he has served as chairman of the school board, and he and his family are members of the Grace Lutheran Church of Millville. To Mr. and Mrs. Martin six children have been born: Myrtle, May 4, 1900; Hazel, November 11, 1902; Elmer, July 27, 1905; Alphy, July 24, 1908; Henry, January 24, 1912; and Evelyn, January 29, 1915.

**Andrew Schwirtz**, a well to do farmer of West Albany Township, residing in section 36, was born in this township August 31, 1885, son of Valentine and Anna (Rathler) Schwirtz. The father was a native of Luxemburg, and the mother of Preisen, Germany, but they were married in this country. Valentine Schwirtz, after coming to Minnesota, was occupied for three years in operating a dray line in Wabasha City. From there he removed to West Albany









ROBERT G. McCracken and family



Township, where his brother, John, was farming on section 26. For this brother he worked two years, at the end of which time he homesteaded 80 acres in section 25, and started in for himself. It was a tract of wild land which he subsequently developed into a farm, erecting buildings and bringing the soil into cultivation. In time he became the owner of 240 acres, and was successful and prosperous. He died March 29, 1911, at the age of 72 years, being survived by his wife, Anna, who passed away, aged 75, on December 22, 1915. Andrew Schwirtz acquired his education in the local school and was trained to agricultural pursuits on the home farm, which he rented for one year after the death of his father. In 1917 he bought his present farm of 160 acres in West Albany Township (formerly known as the Fred Rahman farm), the house and barn belonging to which lie in section 36. Here he has since been engaged in general farming, keeping good Hereford cattle and Poland-China swine. The soil is productive, and 125 acres of his farm are now under the plow. In 1920 Mr. Schwirtz built a substantial addition to his barn. He ships his grain and stock through the Theilman Shipping Association, and is the owner of a large threshing outfit. The village of Theilman, two miles away, is his principal market. On January 17, 1909, Mr. Schwirtz was united in marriage with Hanna Laqua, who was born in West Albany Township, March 3, 1888, daughter of John and Margaret (Smith) Laqua, who came to this country from Germany at an early date. Mr. and Mrs. Schwirtz are the parents of two children: Eli Matthew, born June 12, 1910; and Myrtle Leona, born September 20, 1912. The family are members of the Catholic church and of St. Joseph's parish at Theilman.

**William Charles Danckwart**, who, though a young man, is proprietor of one of the best farms in West Albany Township, located in section 1, was born in section 9, this township, October 6, 1889, son of John and Sophia (Orning) Danckwart. His parents were among the earliest settlers in this section, and hence of necessity hard workers, whence, perhaps, he has derived some share of his own industry and enterprise. His education was acquired in the district school, which he left at the age of 15 years, and until 1913 he was associated in agricultural operations with his father. On October 7, 1913, he was married to Margaret, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Williams) Gilles, of Plum City, Wis., and he and his wife began home making on a farm in section 1, West Albany Township, which property he still owns. In the same section he now has 320 acres, of which 300 are under the plow. The house is a good two-story, 11-room frame building, and the barns, granary, machine shed, poultry house and other outbuildings are substantial and kept in excellent condition, while the operating equipment is complete and up to date. Mr. Danckwart follows diversified farming, keeping grade Shorthorn cattle, Duroc and Chester-White hogs and Shropshire sheep. He is one of the stirring and successful men in his line of business, financially solid, and a good and reliable citizen. Originally a Democrat, he is now a member of the Non-partisan League. He was reared in the German Lutheran faith, and is a member of St. John's congregation, while his wife is a Catholic. They are the parents of two children: Robert William John, born July 2, 1915; and Herbert George, born June 12, 1920. The children are members of St. Mary's Catholic church.

**Robert G. McCracken**, one of the leading farmers of Glasgow Township, proprietor of a fine estate, was born in this township December 17, 1874, son of William and Johanna (Jacob) McCracken. The father was a native of Scotland, born in 1815, who emigrated to New Brunswick in 1841, and came thence to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1855, taking land in section 20, Glasgow Township. He was accompanied by his first wife, in maidenhood Magdalen Scott, a native of Ohio, and after her death he married in 1860 Johanna Jacob of West Albany Township, and a native of Germany, who passed away July 22, 1920. The McCrackens were among the first families to settle in Glasgow Township and gave their name to McCracken Station. William, the father, died in 1888,



widely known and respected as one of the notable pioneers of the county. Robert G. McCracken was one of a large family, numbering five children by his father's first marriage, and nine by the second. He had but limited educational advantages, but attended district school as he found opportunity. Reared to manhood on the home farm, he worked for his father until the latter's death, and has never changed his residence. In the summer of 1910 he came into possession of 305 acres of the McCracken estate, on which he has erected a good set of buildings, including a barn in 1900, a granary in 1910, and a house in 1911. The farm possesses good soil, of which 265 acres are now under the plow. It is located 13 miles south of Lake City and two miles north of Theilman, which is the principal market. It is well stocked with graded Shorthorn cattle, Duroc swine and Shropshire sheep, Mr. McCracken giving particular attention to stock raising. His operating equipment is good and includes a large auto car. Thus industry and good management have brought their usual reward. Mr. McCracken is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator at Theilman, besides having other financial interests. On April 3, 1907, he was united in marriage with Mary Fetzner, daughter of Perry and Martha (Speed) Fetzner of Glasgow Township. Her father was of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry, and was born March 24, 1842, and died August 28, 1896. Her mother, who was from New England, was born December 29, 1844, and died January 19, 1908. They were early settlers in Glasgow Township, this county, and were prosperous farmers. Mr. and Mrs. McCracken have one child, Carolyn, who was born January 17, 1910. They are affiliated religiously with the Lutheran church at Theilman.

**Bartholomew Fitzgerald**, a former resident of Highland Township, where he cleared and improved a farm, was a native of Wabasha County, and the son of Irish parents, his father being among the earliest settlers in this county. The latter's home, situated between Kellogg and Weaver in Watopa Township, was in early days a house of entertainment for travelers. There Bartholomew grew to manhood. He was subsequently married in Wabasha to Mary Burk, and about 1878 they moved to Highland Township, where they bought 209 acres of wild land, on which was a log shack. In time he developed this place, building a good frame house and two frame barns, together with other necessary buildings. The rest of his life was spent on the farm, where he died in 1892. His wife is also now deceased. The farm subsequently came into possession of their son, Edward J., the present sheriff of Wabasha County. In addition to this son they had two others, and also three daughters: Thomas, now living in Portland, Ore.; Daniel, married, and living in Spokane, Wash.; Mary and Katherine, who are deceased; and Bridget, who is residing in Chicago.

**Edward J. Fitzgerald**, the present sheriff of Wabasha County, was born in Watopa Township, this county, August 5, 1877, son of Bartholomew and Mary (Burk) Fitzgerald. He was but a year old when he accompanied his parents to a farm in Highland Township, where he grew to manhood, acquiring his education in the country school, which he attended up to the age of 15 or 16 years. Then, on account of his father's death, he had to assume the responsibility of operating the farm, his mother residing with him until her death. On that event he bought the interests of the other heirs and subsequently operated the place as sole owner until 1911, when he rented it and moved to Wabasha city, where he went to work in a garage. There he was employed until the fall of 1918, in which year he sold his farm to Klees brothers, the present owners. During his agricultural career he made many improvements on the place, and successfully carried on general farming, dealing to some extent in horses. In 1915 Mr. Fitzgerald became a candidate for sheriff, but on that occasion was defeated by Julius Boehlke. He was popular throughout the county, however, and on his second candidature in 1918, he was elected over Mr. Boehlke, taking office January 7, 1919. Politically he has always been a Democrat, and while



on the farm in Highland Township served as town supervisor for four years. On November 22, 1915, Mr. Fitzgerald married Anna Kohn, daughter of Matthew and Barbara Kohn of Wabasha, Minn., who was born in Wabasha August 31, 1899. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Mary, born September 4, 1916; and Edward, born February 9, 1918.

**Ziba Goss**, a pioneer, was born in East Randolph, Orange County, Vt., in 1842, and was brought to Wabasha County in the early fifties by his parents, who settled in Highland Township. At the outbreak of the Civil War Ziba, and two of his brothers, Howard and Dana, enlisted and did good service during that great conflict in the Third Minn. Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was captured and paroled in 1862 and the men sent north against the Indians. Later they again saw service in the south. Ziba Goss was reared to farm pursuits, but after the war went to Wabasha and learned the carpenter's trade. After this he devoted many years to the woodworking and building trades. For a long period he was foreman of the large factory and planing mill of Ingram, Kennedy & Gill at Wabasha. Subsequently he was a partner in the firm of Goss & Campbell, implement dealers at Wabasha. In later years he operated and managed the "Hurd Hotel," now the "Anderson House," the capacity of which he nearly doubled by erecting the western wing. For 12 years he did most efficient service as postmaster at Wabasha. After a long and useful life, he died April 21, 1911. Ziba Goss was married June 14, 1875, to Emma Hurd, the daughter of Blois S. and Lavira (Isham) Hurd, Wabasha pioneers, and founders and proprietors of the Hurd House. She died November 16, 1903.

**Frank C. Goss**, the popular clerk of courts of Wabasha County, was born in the city where he now resides November 14, 1876, son of Ziba and Emma (Hurd) Goss, and descended from two of the earliest families in the county. He passed through the graded and high schools of Wabasha and took the four years' course at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. For a year and a half he acted as his father's clerk in the Hurd Hotel, now the Anderson House. Then he was deputy postmaster at Wabasha under his father. Upon retiring from this position he entered the government service as receiver of material, connected with the Upper Mississippi office of the United States Engineers, working on the river in the summer and in the government building at St. Paul during the winter. He resigned from this position in the fall of 1914. That same fall he became a candidate for his present position, took office January 1, 1915, and by re-election has since continued to serve. He is an efficient officer, competent in his office, and accommodating to the public, thus winning the general favor of the court, the lawyers and his constituents. Fraternally he is a member of Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha, and of Hope Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., of Lake City. The family faith is that of the Grace Memorial Episcopal church of Wabasha, of which Mr. Goss is a prominent member, and of which he has been vestryman for many years. Mr. Goss was married August 12, 1903, to Josephine Cumbey, daughter of William N. and Elizabeth (Howe) Cumbey, of St. Paul, and they have two children: Elizabeth, born July 7, 1905, and Howard, born May 10, 1912. The family residence is a comfortable dwelling on West Main street.

**Louis Henry Roschen**, the owner of two good farms in Mt. Pleasant Township, on one of which he resides, though now retired from active work, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 3, 1869, son of Henry and Catherine Roschen. The father was a carpenter who, with his family, came to Wabasha County in 1885. Up to the age of 21 years Louis Henry Roschen worked as a farm hand. Then in 1890 he rented a farm of 155 acres in Florence Township, Goodhue County, and up to 1907 he continued to operate rented farms. He then bought 174 acres in section 11, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, the farm being partially improved. He continued to make progress, and in 1913 bought 280 acres adjoining his home place. Each farm was provided with an adequate set of buildings, except for such additions as he has since made, which



include a farm house and two good barns. Until his retirement he followed general farming very successfully, his principal stock being grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine. His farms lie four miles west of Lake City. On retiring Mr. Roschen leased his original farm to his son, Willie D., and the other to his son, Louis John, retaining his residence on the east farm. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator and in the Lake Pepin Co-operative Creamery, both of Lake City, and is secretary of the Farmers' Live Stock Shipping Association. One of the leading citizens of his township, he has taken a more or less active part in public affairs, not grudging his time or effort when it was for the public service. He was assessor of Mt. Pleasant Township for six years, and for the last two years has served as town clerk. In 1910 he was census reporter for the township, and ever since then has been crop reporter for the government, sending in reports every month. During the recent World War he showed his pure Americanism by taking an active part in all the loan drives in the township. Mr. Roschen was married February 21, 1890, to Anna, daughter of John and Metta Merken's, of West Florence Township, Goodhue County. Their children are as follows: Christine Catherine, born May 31, 1891, now Mrs. Louis Tomforde, of Mt. Pleasant Township; Louis John, born March 9, 1892; Willie Diedrich, born February 6, 1896; Alice Anna, born October 14, 1898; and Marie Henrietta, born August 28, 1901. Mr. Roschen and his family are members of St. John's Lutheran congregation at Lake City, and are people who represent a good type of manhood and womanhood.

**Garrett Fitzgerald**, a pioneer of Wabasha county, was a native of Ireland, and came to the United States in the early fifties with his parents and three brothers, the family locating at Reed's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn. Later the parents settled on land in Watopa Township, this county, the father, with the assistance of his sons, being for a number of years actively engaged in land development and farming. Both he and his son, Garrett, served in various town offices and were stirring and useful citizens. The home farm was in section 2, and contained 160 acres. Garrett Fitzgerald was married in this state to Margaret Costello, who died in 1877. He survived her a number of years, passing away in 1904, a man of wide acquaintance, who had been a successful farmer and patriotic citizen, and whose loss was deeply felt. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald were the parents of eight sons and two daughters, the daughters and five of the sons being now living, namely: Garrett, section foreman at Weaver; Helen, who married John Dixon, and lives in Columbus, Ohio; Mary, wife of Henry Herring, and a resident of Iowa; John J., who is chief of the fire department at Grand Forks, N. D.; Michael, an electrician at Grand Forks, N. D.; William, living on the old home farm; and Edward, a grain buyer at Minneiska. Those deceased are: Ned, John (first), and Thomas.

**William Fitzgerald**, a well known farmer of Watopa Township, son of Garrett and Margaret (Costello) Fitzgerald, was educated in District School No. 37, and has always lived on the home farm, except for six years spent in North Dakota. It now contains 280 acres, he having purchased 160 acres since his parents died. An experienced farmer, he is conducting it with profitable results and is numbered among the well to do citizens of his township. He has served in school office, but is independent in politics. He is a Catholic in religion and belongs to the Knights of Columbus and to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Fitzgerald was married at Kellogg, Minn., November 12, 1907, to Mary Hager, who was born and reared in Watopa Township, this county, daughter of H. H. and Caroline (Kopland) Hager. Their home circle has been broadened and brightened by the birth of three children: Paul William, Mary Margaret and John Eugene, the two elder of whom are attending school. H. H. and Caroline (Kopland) Hager, the parents of Mrs. Fitzgerald, were born in Hanover, Germany, and came to the United States in 1882, settling first in Glasgow Township, this county, but moving to Watopa Township in 1884. Their occupation has always been farming. They have had ten children, those living be-









MRS. MARY BAKER



ing; Joseph, of Grand Forks, N. D.; Henry, who is farming in Watopa Township; Barney, a farmer in the same township; August, who lives with his parents; Carrie, who married Andy Gilcreast of Plainview; William, at home; Mary, wife of William Fitzgerald, and Rose and Lizzie, at home.

**William G. Deming**, former proprietor of an up-to-date machine-shop in the village of Kellogg, but now deceased, was born in the town of Wabasha, this county, May 1, 1886, son of John and Ellen (Sheely) Deming. The father was a native of New York state and the mother of Ireland, but they were married in Wabasha, Minn., where they are now living after a career of a number of years in agriculture. They have had two children, William G. and John J. William G. Deming acquired his education in the district and parochial schools, the family being Catholics in religion, and was associated with his father in agricultural work on the home farm until 1907. He then began to learn the blacksmith's trade in Claremont, Minn., and in July, 1914, engaged in the business in Kellogg. In the spring of 1919 he erected a tile building here, of 40 by 60 feet, for a machine shop, which he fully equipped for all kinds of work in that line, including acetylene welding, and did horse shoeing and all other blacksmith work. Thoroughly competent and industrious, he took his place among the leading artisans of the village and enjoyed a prosperous career until January 15, 1920, when he met with an accident in his shop while welding which was the cause of his death two hours later. Mr. Deming was married June 6, 1917, at Kellogg to Katherine Leisen, daughter of Matthias and Katherine Leisen, natives of Germany, who were early settlers in Wabasha County, and for a number of years farmers in Watopa and Greenfield townships. The father died in 1914, but the mother is still living, as also are their six children: John, Albert, Nicholas, Joseph, Elizabeth and Katherine. Mr. and Mrs. Deming were the parents of two children: Eugene Albert, born July 2, 1918, and Katherine Elizabeth, born July 21, 1919.

**Jacob Baker**, the developer of one of the good farms of Glasgow Township, now deceased, was born in Prussia about 1841. About 1870 he came to Minnesota with his parents, who settled in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, on land located in section 12. Jacob resided with his parents here until 1875, when, being discontented, and wanting to return to his native land, his father started him on 160 acres in section 18, Glasgow. In the same year he married Mary Reiland, daughter of Bernhardt and Susan Reiland, of Mazeppa, this county. She was born in Germany and came to this country with her parents at the age of 12 years. When young Baker came into possession of the farm which he subsequently bought, only 25 acres had been improved and the buildings were poor. During his active career on the place he cleared and developed 115 acres, and in 1895 began the erection of a comfortable residence, when death called him and he passed away on July 20, before his new house was completed. It was finished by his widow and sons, who also erected a good barn and other buildings, besides clearing ten additional acres, and 150 are now under the plow. The farm, which Mrs. Baker has continued to conduct with her sons' aid, consists of productive land, and is well stocked with cattle and hogs, all of good grade, the Baker brothers—Benjamin, Charles and William—giving particular attention to the breeding of full blooded Duroc swine. Their nearest market is Theilman, three miles away. Mr. Baker was a well known and respected citizen of his township, which he served in various offices for a number of years, also serving on the school board of his district. A hard worker and a good citizen and neighbor, his loss was deeply regretted. He and his wife were the parents of 15 children, who were born as follows: Susan, February 22, 1876; Benjamin, July 14, 1877; Charles, February 9, 1879; Katherine, January 23, 1881; Frank, November 14, 1883; John, March 31, 1885; Mary, February 25, 1886; Margaret, May 1, 1888; Nicholas, December 6, 1889; William, June 7, 1891; Elizabeth, April 24, 1892; Lena and Anna (twins), January 17, 1896; and two who died in infancy. Susan is now Mrs. Frank



Wohlwend of Lake City. Benjamin, Charles, William, John and Nicholas are all on the home farm. Katherine is now Mrs. Nicholas Krebsbach, residing in North Dakota, where her husband is engaged in farming, banking and the sale of agricultural implements. Mary, who is unmarried, is in the employ of the Kuehn Mercantile Co. of Wabasha. Margaret is now Mrs. John Schwartz of West Albany Township. William was inducted into the United States service September 5, 1918, and became a member of a machine gun division, training at Camp Grant, Ill., and Camp Hancock, Ga. He was not sent overseas, and was honorably discharged February 28, 1919. Elizabeth is now a trained nurse, being a graduate from the Lake City Hospital. Lena and Anna are both residing on the home farm. The Baker family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Joseph's parish at Theilman.

**Michael and Patrick E. Costello**, proprietors of a flourishing general store at Weaver, Minn., are sons of Patrick and Mary (Starr) Costello, and were both born in Wabasha County, Minn., Michael in Highland Township in 1880, and Patrick (familiarly known as "Ed"), in Glasgow Township, February 3, 1889. Patrick Costello, Sr., was born in West Virginia and came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1856. The mother, Mary S. Costello, was born in Jamestown, N. Y., and came to this county in 1855. They were married at Wabasha in 1876, and for a number of years were engaged in farming, but only the mother is now living, she being a resident of Kellogg, this county, as Patrick Costello, Sr., died some 20 years ago, or about 1898. They had a family of nine children: Michael, now of Weaver; Thomas, who resides in Watopa Township, this county, on a farm; Mary, now Mrs. W. S. O'Flaherty of Watopa Township; Nellie, wife of A. R. Strauss of Dogden; N. D.; Patrick E., of Weaver; James J., at present living on a farm near Kellogg, but who is about to remove to a farm in Highland Township; Agnes, who died young; Ignatius, who died in infancy; and Vincenza, who is living with her mother at Kellogg. The four eldest children were all born in Highland Township, and the five younger in Cook's Valley, Glasgow Township, Wabasha County. Patrick E. (or "Ed") Costello acquired his elementary education in District School No. 28, Glasgow Township, subsequently attended school at Kellogg, and later at St. Thomas' College at St. Paul, Minn. Up to the age of 19 his residence was on the home farm, which he assisted in cultivating, but later he became manager of the store at Kellogg operated by his uncle, John, under the style of John Costello & Co., and was thus occupied until May 15, 1918. He then enlisted in the United States service, and was sent to the officers' training camp at Camp Dodge, Iowa, where on August 26, 1918, he was commissioned second lieutenant. He was not, however, among those who saw service overseas, but remained on this side ready to obey the call to duty, until he received an honorable discharge January 15, 1919. He then formed a partnership with his brother, Michael, and the two brothers established their present business, having a well stocked general store, and handling groceries, hardware, hats and caps, boots and shoes, and also, to some extent, clothing. Though but a short while established here, they have already laid the foundation of a good reputation as general merchants and reliable business men, and have a large and increasing trade. Michael Costello, who was also well educated, and who, like his brother, received a good agricultural training, was for some years in the employ of C. A. Smith, grocer, of Winona, Minn., and there acquired good business experience. He married Frances Webber, and has two children: Ursula, who was born in October, 1915; and Margarite, born September 12, 1919. The Costellos are affiliated religiously with the Catholic church, and the brothers with the Knights of Columbus and Ancient Order of Hibernians.

**Joseph H. Freese**, who for the last nine years has been conducting a good-sized farm in Watopa Township, was born in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, Minn., November 25, 1885, son of Clem and Sophia (Grass) Freese. The parents were natives of Germany, where Clem Freese was born in 1856. He



came to the United States in the early sixties, at the age of seven years, settling in Iowa, whence he moved to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1885. Here he bought 160 acres of land in Watopa Township, later another tract of the same size, and afterwards one of 98 acres, making a total of 418 acres. On that farm he resided until 1911, in which year he moved to Breckenridge, Minn., and is now living on a farm which he purchased there. He aided in the development of Watopa Township, improving his place here by the erection of good buildings, and bringing most of his land under cultivation. His marriage to Sophia Grass, who was born in Germany, took place February 15, 1884. They became the parents of 11 children: Joseph, Mary, Theresa, Bernard, Anastasia, Frances, Clara, Albert, Lloyd, Lawrence and James. Mary is now Mrs. Lawrence Schanhara; Theresa is the wife of A. L. Flock; Anastasia is the widow of Ben Wild; and Frances the wife of Patrick Curren. Mrs. Sophia Freese, the mother of these children, died April 15, 1917. Joseph H. Freese acquired his education in the district school in Watopa Township and the St. Felix high school at Wabasha. He was reared on his parents' farm and worked for his father until 1911. He then began his career as an independent farmer by renting his present farm of 418 acres in sections 4, 8 and 9, Watopa Township, which he expects to purchase later. Among his contemplated improvements for this summer (1920) are the erection of a good silo. His operations as a general farmer and stock raiser have been carried on energetically and intelligently and he is making good financial progress. For 10 years he has been a member of the school board of district No. 69. In religion he is a Catholic and he belongs to the order of Knights of Columbus. Mr. Freese was married February 15, 1911, to Cecelia Plein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Plein, and the children born of this union are as follows: Edwin C., January 8, 1912; Leona F., May 30, 1913; James J., September 2, 1916; and Viola E., November 16, 1918.

John Plein, father of Mrs. Joseph H. Freese, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., August 12, 1864. After growing to manhood he farmed in Highland Township until 1905, and then moved to Kellogg, where he and his wife, whose maiden name was Anna Schoweiler, now reside. They have had four children: Cecelia, Theresa (Mrs. John Schierts), Ferdinand, and Clarence.

**Gustav E. Boehlke**, a prominent farmer of Watopa Township, was born in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., April 3, 1875, son of John and Christine (Reiter) Boehlke. The parents came to the United States from Germany in 1872. Gustav E. acquired his education in his native township, and in a German school at Potsdam, Minn., where he studied for a year and a half. He remained at home and worked for his father until 1898, and then rented different farms in Highland Township. Subsequently he came to Watopa Township, where for eight years he has resided on and operated the Howe farm in section 29. He was married November 19, 1900, to Minnie Binder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Binder. Her parents were born in Germany and came to this country in 1873, locating in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where they both rented and owned farms, Mr. Binder retiring from active work in 1908. He is still living in Highland Township, and is a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Wabasha County. Mrs. August Binder died in 1911. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which her husband belongs. They had six children: Henry, Anna, Minnie, Julia, George and Augusta, of whom Julia is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Gustav E. Boehlke are the parents of four children: Loretta I., born April 4, 1902; Charles R., July 31, 1903; Reuben C., November 30, 1905; and Ella U., January 12, 1908. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Lutheran church.

**Joseph Pike** was born in New Hampshire, and was there reared. From there he went to New York State. In the middle forties he brought his family to Illinois, and secured a farm in Lake County. In 1849 he followed the



rush of the gold seekers to California, but being unsuccessful in his quest he returned to Illinois. He died at Beaver Creek, Ill., in 1899 at the age of 88 years. Mr. Pike by his first wife, who was a Miss Woodard, had three children: Joseph B., an unnamed daughter who died in infancy and Amanda M. Joseph B. is a resident of Beaver Creek, Ill.; Amanda M. married Homer Weaver, and died at Lansingburg, N. Y. By his second wife, Sibyl Clarke, whom he married at Malone, N. Y., and who died in Lake City, this county, in 1879 at the age of 73 years, he had two children, Jennie, the widow of D. E. Cross of San Diego, Calif., and Nelson C., a real estate man of Lake City. Joseph Pike and family moved to Lake City in 1866.

**Nelson C. Pike**, a prominent real estate and insurance man of Lake City, formerly engaged in local and metropolitan journalism, was born at Warren, Lake County, Ill., November 18, 1848, the son of Joseph and Sibyl (Clarke) Pike. He came to Lake City after the Civil war, and here continued his education. Upon attaining his majority, he entered the office of the Lake City Leader to learn the printers' trade. From 1872 to 1873 he was employed by the Minneapolis Times and Tribune, and from 1874 to 1875 by the Chicago Inter-Ocean. Then he returned to Lake City, and was again employed by the Lake City Leader. In 1879 he entered the real estate office of Joseph Manning at Lake City, and has since continued in the same line of business for 40 years. At Mr. Manning's death in 1898, he became the administrator of the estate, and three years later in 1901 he took it over in his own name. In addition to his extensive real estate business, he represents a number of leading insurance companies. His 40 years' experience has given him a deep insight into real estate values in this region, and his judgment is highly regarded. In addition to the farm lands which he holds from time to time as a part of his business, he owns a pleasant home in Lake City, and a comfortable summer home at Pinehurst, on Long Lake, near Park Rapids, Minn., where in the summer months he is enabled to indulge his enthusiasm for fishing and outdoor life. A thorough believer in education, Mr. Pike did efficient service as a member of the Lake City board of education for nine years. His Masonic connections are with Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, A. F. & A. M., Lake City; Hope Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., Lake City; Tyrian Council, No. 4, Red Wing; Lake City Commandery, No. 6, K. T.; Lake City Chapter, No. 75, O. E. S.; Winona Consistory, No. 4, A. & A. S. R., S. J.; and Osmund Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., St. Paul. The family faith is that of St. Mark's Episcopal Church of which he has been treasurer for many years. Mr. Pike was married November 30, 1875, to Rose N. Manning, daughter of Joseph and Miriam Manning, of Lake City, and this union was blessed with two sons, Jay N. and Roy M. Jay N. was born October 1, 1876, graduated from the Lake City high school and the dental department of the University of Minnesota, and is now practicing in Minneapolis. Roy M. was born September 29, 1879, and graduated from the Lake City high school and from the Birmingham (England) School of Technology, and is now proprietor in London of an art metal plant which during the war was turned into a munitions plant. Mrs. Rose N. Manning Pike, who was born in Massachusetts, September 8, 1851, died at Lake City, March 19, 1899. June 8, 1901, Mr. Pike married Bertha E. Walter, born in Lake City, April 2, 1871, daughter of William L. and Laura H. Walter. Their home is brightened by a beloved adopted daughter, Mabel, born January 30, 1904, and now a student in the Lake City schools.

**August G. Schandel**, manager of the Farmers Co-operating Creamery at Lake City, was born at Rochester, Minn., January 5, 1880, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Schandel. The parents were natives of Germany, who came to America about 1867, settling in Olmsted County, Minn., where they engaged in farming. They brought with them two children: Gustav H., now a butter maker in a creamery at Rapidan, Blue Earth County, Minn., and Mary, who is the wife of George Ahrus of Faribault County, Minn. August C. Schandel









Alexander Huddleston



acquired a common school education in Faribault County. At the age of 17 he began working out as a farm hand in Olmsted County, Minn., and was thus occupied for about two years. Then he went to Rapidan to learn butter making with his brother Gustav, and was there two years. He then entered the employ of the Rome Co-operative Creamery Co. in Faribault County; was with that concern for two years, and was for three years subsequently in the employ of the St. Clair Co-operative Co. at St. Clair, Blue Earth County. After that, until 1916, he worked as butter maker at Glencoe, McLeod County. He then took a vacation of one year. On April 1, 1917, he came to Lake City to take his present position as manager and operator for the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Co., which position he has since held, being also a stockholder in the company. A master of his trade, he turns out an excellent product, and his services have proved highly satisfactory. His political affiliations are with the Republican party. Mr. Schandel was married, May 16, 1904, to Clara, daughter of Leopold and Anna Krum, of Blue Earth, Minn., and he and his wife began domestic life at St. Claire. They have had two children: Doris, born January 20, 1917, and John, who died in infancy.

**Alexander Huddleston**, who is numbered among the prosperous farmers of Glasgow Township, is a native of Wabasha County, having been born in Glasgow Township, April 26, 1862, son of Thomas and Sarah (McIllreavie) Huddleston. He acquired his elementary education in the district school and subsequently took a course in stenography and bookkeeping in the Lake City Commercial College. During his early manhood he was associated with his father in operating farms in Glasgow Township, but for three years, from 1903 to 1906, he was employed in the construction department of the Dwelle Telephone Co. of Lake City. In 1907 he returned to the home farm in section 10, Glasgow Township, which he has since operated. It contains 225 acres, and is provided with a good residence, two modern barns, one 40 by 80 by 16 feet with an ell, and the other 20 by 60 by 16 feet, with a good basement for cattle and full steel equipment; also a triple-wall silo and substantial outbuildings, all electrically lighted. Mr. Huddleston follows general farming and is a successful breeder of pure-blooded Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He is a man of activity and enterprise, not only in matters pertaining to his business, but in others of public concern. He was chairman of the meeting held for the purpose of organizing the Wabasha County Farm Bureau Association and is now the first vice president of the Wabasha organization. He served on the school board of District No. 68 for nine years, and was town treasurer seven years. During the participation of the United States in the world war he took a leading part in patriotic work, serving as chairman of the Glasgow Township liberty loan drives; as a member of the Public Safety Commission for Wabasha County; as federal food administrator for Glasgow and West Albany Townships, with the Villages of Theilman and Dumfries; he took part in the war saving stamp drives and was a member of the Minnesota Motor Corps. In politics Mr. Huddleston is a staunch Republican. He is a member of the Republican State Central Committee and a member of the Agricultural Division of the Republican National Committee. Religiously he was reared a Presbyterian. His fraternal affiliations are with the Masonic order, he being a member of Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha; Hope Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., of Lake City; Lake City Commandery, K. T., No. 6, and Osmun Temple of the Mystic Shrine at St. Paul. Mr. Huddleston was married August 6, 1907, to Maude J. Grimm of Wabasha, in which place she was born January 4, 1886, daughter of William and Lovina (Cratt) Grimm. The domestic circle of Mr. and Mrs. Huddleston has been broadened and brightened by the birth of four children: Neil Alexander, May 5, 1908; Helen J., February 28, 1911; Sarah Lovina, November 2, 1916, and Margaret Esther, February 7, 1920.

**Menzie Thomas Cliff**, a prosperous and representative farmer of Lake Township, residing in section 17, was born in Frederickton, New Brunswick,



August 23, 1870, son of Jonathan B. and Jane (Good) Cliff. The parents, who were respectively of English and Scotch descent, settled in New Brunswick at an early day. They died before their son Menzie had finished his school course, and he had to make his own way in the world. After graduating from a business college, he was induced by friends in Menominee, Mich., to go to that place, and there he found a position as bookkeeper with the "K. C." Lumber Co., remaining with them for two years and a half. In 1894 he went to Minneapolis to take a similar position with R. B. Tomlins & Son, wholesale hatters, and was with that concern for a year. While residing in that city he made the acquaintance of Addie May Spaulding, daughter of Addison Russ and Lamoile (Sanborn) Spaulding, of Lake City, Minn., and was united in marriage with her on July 15, 1894. In March of the following year he and his wife came to Wabasha County to care for her parents, both of whom died within a few years, the mother on September 15, 1901, and the father on April 15, 1902. On account of his wife's health Mr. Cliff then went to Colorado and for some time was engaged in the real estate business at Greeley, that state. The Spaulding farm, which had come into their possession, was in the meanwhile rented out to a tenant. In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Cliff returned to Wabasha County and took up their residence on the farm in section 17, Lake Township, which he has operated ever since. It formerly contained 126 acres, but by an additional purchase he has increased its area to 226 acres, and now has 165 under the plow. The farm is one of the best in the county and is beautifully situated on the bluff, commanding a fine view of Lake City, Lake Pepin and Maiden Rock on the Wisconsin side of the river. Mr. Cliff follows general farming and dairying, his dairy herd consisting of pure bred Jerseys, while his swine are graded Chester-Whites. Although he has bred and owned many fine Jerseys, "Ella B." of River Lawn was the star boarder in his herd for many years. On February 13, 1914, Mr. Cliff started her on an official test for one year, although she was then 12 years of age. At the completion of her test on February 13, 1915, it was found she had given 11,336.6 pounds of 5.42 per cent milk, which yielded 614.5 pounds of butter fat, or 722 pounds 15 ounces of butter. During this time she had dropped a living calf, which, with her record, gained her a place in Class AA, Register of Merit. This wonderful performance at her advanced age showed her to be one of the most productive Jerseys in the United States. Mr. Cliff has a good modern equipment and is conducting a profitable business. Politically he is a Republican of broad tendencies, in casting his vote usually placing the man before the party. He and his wife are the parents of a son, Ivan Spaulding Cliff, who was born August 11, 1898. This son was graduated from the Lake City high school in 1917 as valedictorian of his class, and is now operating the farm with his father. During the recent war with Germany he volunteered and was three months in the S. A. T. C. at Carleton College. He is a member of Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, A. F. & A. M. Mr. Cliff and his family are members of the First Congregational Church in Lake City.

**Addison R. Spaulding**, an early settler in Wabasha County, was born in Lewis, Essex County, N. Y., November 15, 1837, son of Luke and Rosina (Densmore) Spaulding, who were respectively of English and Scotch descent, and who lived on the farm which has belonged to the Spaulding family since the year 1800. There he attended school and spent the first 19 years of his life. In 1856 he came to Wabasha County, locating in Lake City. Here he first found employment at teaming, there being considerable work of that character to be done in freighting merchandise and goods from the foot of Lake Pepin before the construction of the railroad. He was married December 25, 1868, to Mrs. Lamoile Dawley, whose maiden name was Lamoile Sanborn. She was born at East Hardwick, Vt., June 1, 1831, and had come to the State of Wisconsin in the late fifties as a school missionary. At the time of her marriage with Mr. Spaulding she resided at Clinton Junction, Wis.



She passed away on September 5, 1901. She had borne her husband one daughter, Addie May, born May 22, 1870, who is now the wife of Menzie T. Cliff, and resides with her husband and only son, Ivan, on the old Spaulding farm in section 17, in Lake Township. In 1873 Mr. Spaulding purchased from the Indians 126 acres on the bluff overlooking Lake Pepin and Lake City. In the letter inclosing the deed to the property from Frank Huot, then of Oak Dale, Neb., was written, "My grandmother saw the girl who leaped from Maiden Rock." About four or five acres of the tract had been cleared, and he continued the work of improvement until he had developed the place into a valuable farm, erecting a fine two-story frame house, which is picturesquely surrounded by large native oaks. He also erected other buildings, planted a number of trees and did everything to make his farm a place of beauty as well as of utility, and today it would be hard to find another farm that exceeds it in either respect. Mr. Spaulding was widely known for his sheep breeding and wool sales, and owned and raised a large flock of Shropshire sheep. At the World's Columbian Commission and International Exhibition in 1893, held in Chicago, he was awarded a diploma of specific merit for his wool exhibit, and also a bronze medal in commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the landing of Columbus. Mr. Spaulding had a successful career as a general farmer, and, with the exception of five years, which he spent in North Dakota as superintendent of a cattle ranch belonging to the Jewell Nursery Company of Lake City, he resided on his farm in Lake Township until his death, which occurred April 15, 1902. Mr. Spaulding was a man of wide reputation, both as a capable farmer and active and useful citizen, his character being unusual in justice and honesty. He served his township and county in responsible public offices, and was appointed administrator of a number of estates. Mr. Spaulding and wife were members of the Baptist church at Lake City and were always liberal in its support. Divided in death by only eight short months, they were both laid to rest in Lakewood Cemetery at Lake City.

**Nicholas Rutz**, a retired farmer residing in Lake City, where he owns a comfortable home, was born in La Crosse County, Wis., January 16, 1862, son of Louis and Isabella Rutz. The parents were natives of Germany, but were married in this country in La Crosse County, Wis., where they settled among the early arrivals, and engaged in farming. There the father died May 16, 1917, after a long and active career. The mother is now living at La Crescent, Minn. Nicholas Rutz was early trained to agricultural pursuits on his parents' farm, and was educated in a parochial school in his native county. At the age of 18 he began working for others as a farm hand, and was thus occupied for three years. On January 15, 1883, he was united in marriage with Mary Magdalene Hammes, who was born in Belgium, March 28, 1860, and was brought to this country by her parents when a babe. Her father was engaged for some years in the manufacture of furniture in Paris. Both he and his wife are now deceased. After his marriage Nicholas Rutz went to work at the carpenter's trade in La Crosse, and followed it there until 1898. He then bought an improved farm of 200 acres in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where he had married his wife, and engaged in agriculture. Six years later he bought another tract of 160 acres, thus increasing the size of his farm to 360 acres, of which he improved 140 acres, leaving the rest in pasture and timber. The farm was located seven miles west of Kellogg, and he was there occupied with general farming until 1917, when he retired and moved to Lake City, renting his farm. He had bought a house on Prairie avenue, but in 1919 he sold that and purchased his present residence at 820 S. Oak street, which is a fine modern house. His career as a farmer was a successful one and he acquired an ample competence, the result of hard work and a sound practical knowledge of the business. Mr. and Mrs. Rutz have had ten children: Clara, now Mrs. Henry Geisler of Lake City;



Mary, wife of William Fuhrman of West Albany Township; Helen, wife of August Echenberger of West Albany Township; John P. and Joseph L., who are deceased; and Henry J., Frank L., Edward, Theresa and Rosella, residing in Lake City, Rosella attending the public school. The son Henry J. was in the United States' service during the recent war, training at Camp Dodge in the motor corps. He married Wilhemina Echenberger and resides at 702 South Oak street, Lake City.

**Herman Ahlers**, who was for some years an enterprising and prosperous farmer of Glasgow Township, was born in Westphalia, Germany, April 9, 1874, son of Martin and Mary Ahlers. He attended common school in his native land to the age of 14 and was then bound out to a farmer. After following agricultural pursuits in Germany until October, 1900, he came to America in company with Henry Stamschorr. Having no money at the time, he worked as a farm hand for two years in Glasgow Township, and afterwards for a year on the farm of Chris Grass of Wabasha Township. On November 19, 1902, Mr. Ahlers married Anna Helmsorig, who was born in Westphalia, Germany, October 11, 1880, and to whom he had become attached while in the old country. After his marriage he started in for himself, renting farms for four years in Glasgow and Highland Townships. In 1906 he bought 200 acres in sections 2 and 3, Glasgow, and 11 acres in section 11, the place being known as the Nick Zeimetz farm. The land was improved, but the buildings were poor. The latter condition he remedied in time, in 1914 building a good residence of nine rooms. With better buildings and an adequate equipment he followed general farming successfully, and had got everything into good shape when he met with a sudden and accidental death, being killed by lightning April 19, 1916. At the time of his death he was serving as supervisor, having filled that position for three years. He was a consistent member of the Catholic church and a good citizen, respected and esteemed throughout Glasgow Township and the vicinity. Since his death his widow has conducted the farm and has made further improvements on it. In 1920 she built a frame barn, 32 by 76 by 14 feet, and a silo 12 by 28 feet in size, and her equipment includes a Chalmers auto car. Mr. and Mrs. Ahlers were the parents of eight children, all of whom are now living, namely: Bernard Joseph, born January 23, 1904; Henry Herman, November 1, 1905; Aloysius Anton, July 14, 1907; Marie Helen, March 31, 1909; Martin Henry, December 31, 1911; Martha Catherine, 1912; Anna Bertha, January 14, 1914; and Gertrude Magdaline, November 28, 1915.

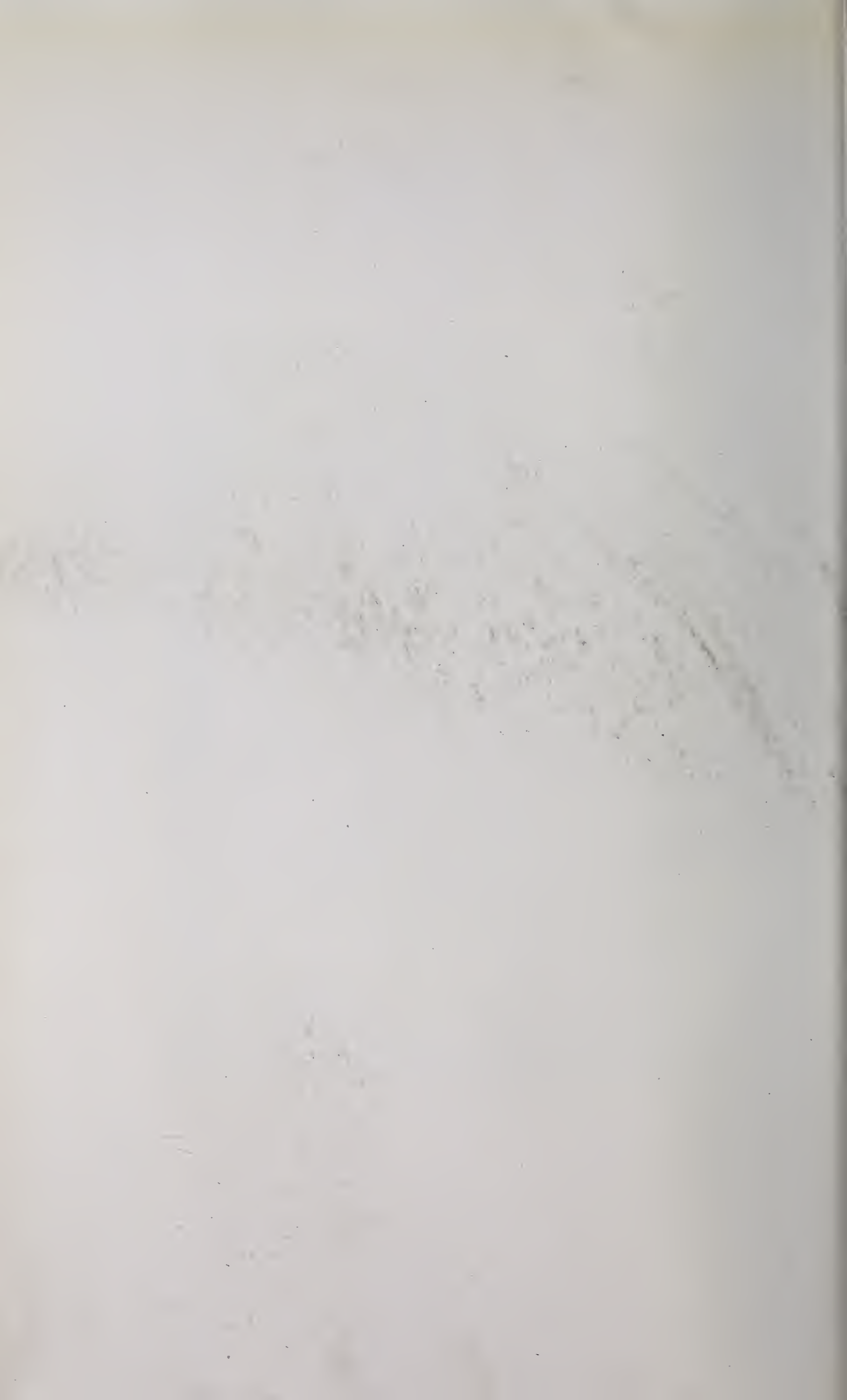
**Silas Zickrick**, a prominent farmer of Highland Township, the owner and operator of a well improved farm of 250 acres, was born at St. Charles, Winona County, Minn., February 11, 1880, son of Edward E. and Hattie (Biers) Zickrick. The father was born in Lomira, Dodge County, Wis., and the mother in Canton, Ohio. When children they came to Minnesota and were subsequently married in Olmsted County. In 1910 they came to Wabasha County, settling on a farm of 160 acres in Highland Township, having previously farmed for a number of years in Winona County. They had four children: Silas, Ray, Arnum and Etta, the last mentioned of whom is the wife of Elmer Pomery, a farmer of Downing, Wis. Silas Zickrick was reared on the home farm and educated in the district school. He remained at home assisting his father until reaching his majority, after which he worked for three years in Argyle, Minn., and in North Dakota. He then returned to St. Charles and for six years worked on farms in that vicinity. At the end of that period, or about 1910, at the time his parents moved to this county, he also came here and bought his present farm of 250 acres in section 1, Highland Township. At that time there were no improvements on the place, but since then he has cleared six acres and put 135 acres under cultivation, besides erecting all the buildings. These include a five-room house; a barn 32 by 50 feet, with a lean-to 24 by 50; a silo 14 by 36; machine shed 24 by 50; a granary 12 by 40, with a lean-to 16 by 40, also used as a machine shed; a chicken house 12 by 40; feed house 12 by 14, and a hog





MR. AND MRS. HERMAN AHLERS







house 12 by 24 feet. He has also fenced the entire farm. Mr. Zickrick carries on general farming and stock raising, breeding graded cattlte, Chester-White hogs and Belgian horses. He is a member of the Masonic order, having taken the thirty-second degree, Scottish rite, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He was married at Kellogg, Minn., June 16, 1909, to Margaret Young, daughter of George and Catherine Young. Her father was born in Muskegon, Mich., and her mother in Iowa. They came to Wabasha County at an early day and followed farming, but are now retired and are living in Kellogg. Mr. and Mrs. Zickrick have one son, Kermit, who was born July 4, 1910, and is now attending school in Cook's Valley.

**William L. Appel**, well known in former days as an industrious and enterprising farmer and sterling citizen of Highland Township, and not yet forgotten, was born in Baden, Germany, September 18, 1842, son of Adam and Katherine (Eckert) Appel. He was young when he accompanied his parents to America, and as a boy attended school in Mercer County, Pa. Subsequently he learned the blacksmith's trade in Greenville, that state, which he followed there as a journeyman until 1866, when he came to Wabasha County, Minn. For three years he followed his trade in Highland Township, and at the end of that time turned his attention to farming, buying 205 acres in section 8. The land was raw and covered with timber, which he cleared off, also erecting a good frame house and other farm buildings. He continued successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death on the farm, July 29, 1910. He was a man highly esteemed and much regretted. Mr. Appel was married November 11, 1869, at Wabasha, to Margaret Arvilla Harncome, daughter of George and Elizabeth Harncome. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and came to Minnesota in 1855 among the early settlers, locating first in Wabasha, where they remained five years. In 1860 they took land in section 6, Highland Township, but later traded that farm to Henry Hampe for a farm in Cook's Valley, where they spent the rest of their lives, Mr. Harncome dying January 6, 1876, and his wife November 30, 1887. They had a family of eight children, of whom there are now only three survivors: Katherine, wife of Darwin Brainard, of Glenwood, Minn.; Mary E., wife of Peter Rasmussen, of Valley City, N. D.; and Margaret Arvilla, widow of William L. Appel. Those deceased are: James, Henrietta, Matilda, Alice and Sarah. Henrietta married Peter Rasmussen, who is also deceased. Matilda married Peter Hall, who is also deceased. Alice married a Mr. Runnels, and Sarah was the wife of Henry Leisen. Since Mr. Appel's death Mrs. Appel has rented out the farm, occupying a part of the house when not visiting her sisters.

**William E. Rother**, who ranks among the active and successful farmers of Highland Township, was born on a farm in section 18, this township, December 11, 1888, son of Gottlieb and Katherine (Sauerssig) Rother. The father, a native of Germany, and the mother, a native of Wisconsin, came to Wabasha County, Minn., at an early day, taking a farm of 120 acres in sections 7 and 18, Highland Township. To this Mr. Rother subsequently added until he owned 260 acres. After operating his farm until advanced years he finally retired with a competence and took up his residence in Plainview, where he died in 1916. His wife is still living with her son, Edward. William E. Rother was reared on his parents' farm, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of agriculture in its different branches, the district school supplying him with an education sufficiently practical for his career in life. After his father's retirement he and his brother, Edward, rented the home farm for five years and operated it together, at the end of which time they bought it. Two years later William sold his interest to Edward and bought the P. H. Feehan farm in section 17, also 80 acres of the Hogan farm, making 160 acres altogether, and it is on this place that he is now residing, carrying on general farming. He raises graded Hereford cattle, having a registered bull, and also Chester-White hogs. He has a good six-room residence, a substantial barn and other



necessary buildings, all in good condidtion. He is a member of the Lutheran church at Plainview. Mr. Rother was married May 1, 1918, at Rochester, Minn., to Mary E. Bloom, daughter of John and Katherine Bloom, the father being a native of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. John Bloom came to Minnesota in 1873, settling first at White Bear, but later moving to Olmsted County, where they are now prosperously engaged in farming. They have had five childred, of whom three are now living: Ethel, Walter and Mary E. Mr. and Mrs. Rother have one child, Katherine, who was born June 20, 1919.

**Charles J. Rother**, who is successfully carrying on farming and stock raising in Highland Township, was born on section 7, this township, September 7, 1875, son of Gottlieb and Katherine (Sauerssig) Rother. The father, who was born in Germany, came to the United States at an early day, and settling in Wabasha County, Minn., bought a farm of 120 acres in section 7, Highland Township. He subsequently purchased more land until he had 260 acres and spent his time developing his farm until his retirement from active work. He then moved to Plainview, where he died in 1916. His wife, who was born in Fredonia, Wis., is still living and makes her home with her son, Edward, in Oakwood Township. Charles J. Rother acquired his education in District School No. 38, Highland Township, and was reared on the home farm, which he helped to cultivate. When 22 years old the Spanish-American war broke out, and he enlisted for military service. After six months' service in the army in the United States he returned home, where he spent the winter. The next spring he went to South Dakota, where he remained two years, from there going to Alberta, Canada, where he took and proved up a farm which he operated for 17 years. In the spring of 1919 he returned to Minnesota and went to farming in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County. In the spring of 1920 Mr. Rother removed to the George Thompson place, better known as the Widow McGrath place, where he is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, with profitable results. In 1906 Mr. Rother was married to Fanny La Point, daughter of Cornelius and Melvina (Fountain) La Point. Her father was born in La Crosse, Wis., and her mother in Quebec, Canada. After following agricultural pursuits for many years in Wisconsin, they went to farming in Alberta, Canada, where they are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Rother have been the parents of four children, of whom three are now living: Louis, Olivia and George. The eldest son, Jeffrey, died May 19, 1920, after an operation for appendicitis.

**Herman Amerland**, a Wabasha County pioneer, the founder of a good farm in Wabasha Township, now carried on by his son Edward and daughter Sophia, was born in Hanover, Germany, May 14, 1822. He was reared on a farm and received a common school education. Until nearly 30 years of age he remained in his native land, where, on January 2, 1852, he was married to Catherine Budke, also a native of Hanover. In 1853 he and his wife, with their first born child, Gerhard Henry, took passage on a sailing vessel for New Orleans, in the United States, where in due time the parents arrived, their son having died on the voyage and been buried at sea. On board a river steamer Mr. and Mrs. Amerland journeyed northward to St. Louis, in which city they remained during the winter. In the spring of 1854 they continued their northern pilgrimage, going as far as Hastings, but soon returning south to Wabasha. Two miles south of the village they took a claim of 80 acres of wild timber land, now within the city limits. On this tract they erected a small log house and began the work of developing a farm. The task was a long and hard one, but was well accomplished, and the farm is today one of the best in this part of the county. In 1870 Mr. Amerland built a comfortable frame house and other necessary buildings. Though he and his wife suffered hardships in the early days, they endured them patiently and were always hard and willing workers. In the very early days they had frequent experiences with the Indians, who were very numerous. The Indians camped and had their tepees in the Amerland woods and often came to the house to trade fish and game for tobacco





EDWARD AMERLAND



SOPHIA AMERLAND







or eatables. Several Indian mounds are on the farm. Their early dealings with the Indians appeared to the Amerlands in the light of a thrilling experience, and they doubtless felt some natural timidity owing to stories they had heard of the ferocity of the savages when on the warpath, but as they treated them kindly they never had any trouble with them, and were treated with respect by the Indians in return. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Amerland were members of the Lutheran Evangelical church and Mr. Amerland was a Republican in politics. Both died on the home farm, Herman Amerland on October 18, 1893, and his wife, Catherine, May 11, 1895. They were the parents of ten children, the first of whom, who died at sea, has been already mentioned. The others were as follows: Henry born November 8, 1855, now engaged in the real estate business in Fargo, N. D.; Anna, born April 8, 1857, now Mrs. John Yost of Wabasha City; Louisa, born June 23, 1859, who married L. S. Russell of Minneapolis, and is now deceased; Sophia, born March 23, 1864, who never married, and is now residing on the home farm; Helena, deceased; Edward, born January 9, 1870, who is unmarried and living on the home farm; John, born April 25, 1872, who is engaged in the auto business in Fargo, N. D.; and Clara, born February 18, 1875, who married S. T. Hill of Minneapolis, and is now deceased. After the death of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Amerland their son, Edward, and daughter, Sophia, bought out the other heirs and have since operated the farm. They have rebuilt the original buildings and added others and today have a fine set, all electrically lighted. Their stock barn has a full modern equipment, as also has the farm in general, 150 acres of which is under cultivation. They carry on general farming and dairying, keeping from 15 to 20 milch cows. Their cattle are of a high grade, known as the "Brown Swiss" breed their swine being of the Poland China variety. For both herds they have full blooded sires. The Amerland farm is beautifully located on the main highway between Wabasha and Kellogg, and now contains 228 acres. Edward and Sophia Amerland affiliate with and help to support the Congregational church of Wabasha. Neither has ever married. They have purchased a fine residence with two lots in Wabasha city, where they expect to make their future home. Politically Edward is a Republican.

**George Schultz**, a well known and respected farmer and stock raiser of Highland Township, was born in Eau Claire County, Wis., June 15, 1884, son of Martin and Anna Schultz. The parents, natives of Germany, came to the United States in the early seventies, first stopping in Milwaukee, where they remained for one year. From there they went to Eau Claire County, where they bought a farm of 80 acres, and began housekeeping, having been married in Milwaukee. The land was raw and largely covered with timber and there was a small log house on the property. Martin Schultz later built a good house and barn and other necessary buildings. There he was engaged in general farming and stock raising until he sold the place in 1916, since which time he has been living retired. His wife, Anna, having died in 1887, he subsequently married Rosa Kabosky, who, like his parents, was a native of Germany. By his first marriage he had six sons and two daughters. One of the daughters died young, but the other children are all now living, namely: Michael, Martin, Frank and Joseph (twins), John, George and Nellie, the last mentioned of whom is the wife of John Rodinsky of Independence. George Schultz was reared on the home farm in Eau Claire County and was educated in the district school. He remained on the farm until 21 years old and then went to Montana, where for five years he was engaged in railroad construction work. At the end of that time he returned to Wisconsin and worked at Arcadia and Independence until he came to Minnesota in 1912. In Highland Township, this county, he worked on the farm of Joe Schacht until he began farming for himself, since which time he has made good progress raising crops and stock, having good herds of cattle, hogs and sheep. Mr. Schultz was married in 1919 to Mary Rother of Highland Township, and they are the parents of a son, Elmer, who was born February 11, 1920.



**Fred G. Colburn**, who is conducting a successful milling business at Jarretts in Hyde Park Township, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., May 21, 1850, son of Otis and Amelia E. Colburn. The father, who was born at Champion, in the same county, on December 1, 1815, died at Carthage, N. Y., June 12, 1865. The mother was a native of Sackett's Harbor in the same New York county, born in 1823. She died at Jarretts, Wabasha County, Minn., October 15, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Otis Colburn were the parents of four children, only two of whom are living: Mrs. George D. Stanton, of Oak Park, Ill., and Fred G., of Jarretts. Fred G. Colburn was 15 years old when his father died, and after that event he went to Fond du Lac, where he learned the miller's trade with an uncle, Alpheus Colburn, remaining with him for three years. He then went to Brandon, Wis., where for six years he was in the employ of H. G. Matthews. From Brandon he went to Harvard, Ill., in the employ of Wood & Co. A year later he removed to Newcastle, Wis., and for three years rented a half interest in the business of A. Colburn & Son. After that until 1884 he, with C. J. Colburn & Bro., owned a half interest in the Eagle mill at Minneapolis. At the end of that time Mr. Colburn came to Wabasha County and engaged in the milling business at Jarretts, where he has since resided, his son, Judson C., being in partnership with him. He has established himself securely as a business man and is one of the prosperous and highly respected citizens of his township. He has served 25 years as treasurer of school district No. 47 and in politics is a Republican. He and his family attend the M. E. church. Mr. Colburn was first married November 28, 1882, to Cora E. Lewis, daughter of Lucius R. and Delilah Lewis of Fond du Lac, Wis. She died at Jarretts, Wabasha County, July 10, 1897. By her Mr. Colburn had four children: Louisa A., born February 26, 1884; Ada A., December 30, 1885; Ethel M., December 29, 1889, and Judson C., June 15, 1894. Louisa A. is now the wife of George Sime of Aberdeen, S. D., and has two children, Richard C. and Rhoda. Ada A., who graduated from the Plainview high school, and was a teacher several years, is now keeping house for her father. Ethel M., who graduated from the English high school at Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Business College, is now a stenographer and bookkeeper. Judson C. Colburn, who, as above mentioned, is in business partnership with his father, enlisted for service in the world war, August 15, 1918. From St. Paul he went to the officers' training school at Camp Grant, where he was located when the armistice was signed. He was discharged November 30, 1918. On September 15, 1920, he married Lura Mae Herrick of Farm Hill, Minn., who was born March 12, 1899. Mr. Fred G. Colburn married his second wife, April 25, 1900, Annie Love, who died without issue July 24, 1914.

**James H. Wright**, an active and progressive farmer of Gillford Township, residing in section 12, was born in the Village of Sherburn, Martin County, Minn., June 27, 1889, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wright. He resided in Sherburn up to the age of 12 years and attended the village school. At the end of that time he came to the home of Peter Schaefer of Gillford Township, Wabasha County, and stayed with him on the farm to the fall of 1912. He was now 23 years old and had saved one thousand dollars with which to start in for himself. His so doing proved a double event in his life, for at the same time, on September 26, 1912, he married Ruby Blohm, daughter of William and Ida Blohm of Gillford Township. It was in the fall of that year that he rented the Claus Meyer farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, where he and his wife began housekeeping. There they remained until 1919, when he bought the Claus Holst farm in section 12, Gillford Township, which is his present home. This farm contains 120 acres, of which 100 acres are under the plow. The soil is productive and the buildings in fairly good condition. Mr. Wright raises grade Shorthorn cattle and Chester-White hogs, and besides doing a profitable business as a general farmer, is a stockholder in the Oak Center Creamery Company. His equipment includes an auto car. Mr. and Mrs.









JAMES WATSON AND FAMILY



Wright have one child, Marlyn W., who was born December 8, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Wright are members of the Oak Center M. E. Church, and are people well liked in this vicinity, both being known as energetic workers and good neighbors. Mrs. Wright was born in Gillford Township, December 29, 1888.

**James T. Watson**, a retired farmer residing in Lake City, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, October 29, 1840, son of Thomas and Margaret Watson. His parents, who lived and died in their native land, had a large family of 15 children, namely, Jeanette, Thomas, David, James, Alexander George, William, Margaret, Helen, Elizabeth, James T., Grace, Isabella, John and Elizabeth (second). Of these children four are now living: James T., of Lake City, Minn.; John, who is in Scotland; Elizabeth in New Zealand, and Isabella in Bellingham, Wash. James T. Watson in his boyhood attended common school in his native land. His parents being poor, at an early age he had to help support himself and when seven years old was accustomed to herd cattle. In 1869 he emigrated to America with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George Penny, the party coming directly to Lake City, Minn. Mr. Penny and wife soon moved to Redwood County, where Mrs. Penny died; her husband is now living in California. During his first year in Wabasha County James T. Watson worked as a farm hand for his brother George at \$20 a month. With a view to future independence he saved his money and at the end of a year bought a horse team. He then rented 50 acres of Andrew Boss of Gillford Township, broke his land, put in his crop, and then went to Redwood County, locating near Redwood Falls. In the fall he returned to Wabasha County and harvested his crop on the Boss farm, after which he went back to Redwood County. Two years later Mr. Watson located on a homestead of 160 acres ten miles southeast of Redwood Falls, where he remained until 1884, when grasshoppers and drought drove him out and he returned to Wabasha County and settled on his Gillford Township farm. Here he was more successful and remained until 1900. His farm consisted of 160 acres in section 23, the land being good. When he left he turned it over to his two sons, John W. and Arlo J., and moved to a farm which he had bought in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, which also contained 160 acres of good land. In 1911 Mr. Watson found himself in comfortable circumstances and accordingly retired and took up his residence in Lake City, leaving his sons Earl and Walter to operate his farm. He owns a comfortable home at the corner of Adams and N. Sixth streets. Politically he has always been a Republican, though not a strong party man. In Redwood County he served as chairman of Three Lakes Township, also as town clerk and as assessor for different terms. Mr. Watson was married May 18, 1874, to Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth McPhee, of New Avon Township, Redwood County, Minn., and both he and his wife are still strong and in good health for people of their years. They have had 11 children, as follows: Margaret, born February 25, 1876; John W., April 26, 1877; Arlo J., January 4, 1879; Elizabeth, December 28, 1881; Minnie, April 24, 1883; Mabel, April 23, 1885; Cora, January 25, 1887; Grace, February 3, 1889; Irl, January 15, 18—; Roy, July 22, 1893, and Walter, January 27, 1897. Several of these children are now deceased. Elizabeth died in her fifth year May 13, 1886, and Grace while still a babe, on March 7, 1890. Mabel, who married Henry Cordes, resides in Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County, Minn. Cora, who married Charles Cordes, died December 20, 1915, leaving a son, Ray Watson Cordes, who since his mother's death has been reared and cared for by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James T. Watson. Irl and Walter are living on their father's farm in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County. Mr. and Mrs. Watson are affiliated religiously with the First Congregational Church of Lake City and are highly respected members of the community. They have been fortunate in many things, but their life has not been all sunshine, and as devoted parents they have felt sorrow at the affliction of their two children Margaret A. and Arlo



J., both of whom are deaf, and who graduated from the Faribault School for the Deaf in 1896 after being there for ten years.

**John W. and Arlo J. Watson**, proprietors of Sunnyside Farm in section 23, Gillford Township, have owned and operated this farm since the spring of 1900, and are prominent among the successful farmers of the township. The original area of the farm was 160 acres, but 80 acres have since been added to it by the two brothers, giving the farm an area of 240 acres, nearly all of which is suitable for the plow. The Watson brothers are engaged in diversified farming and are giving considerable attention to stock raising, having 90 head of Shorthorn and Durham cattle of pure blood, and 40 to 50 head of Poland-China swine, together with a flock of Shropshire sheep. They have built a good two-story frame house, and a frame barn, 38 by 78 by 14 feet, with a full tile basement of 8 feet, and steel equipment. Their equipment is modern and complete, including two double-unit milking-machines, a Ford truck and a Chevrolet car, and through industry and good management they have made the farm a paying enterprise. Neither is married, their two sisters, Margaret A. and Minnie M., keeping house for them. John W. the elder, in addition to attending common school for the usual period, was a pupil for some time in the Lake City Commercial College. He began teaching at the age of 17 and followed that occupation for several years in the schools of Wabasha and Goodhue Counties.

**Edward Z. Johnson**, who was for many years one of the well known and substantial farmers of Hyde Park Township, was a native of Sweden, and was married in his native land to Charlotte U. Forslund. In 1868, leaving his wife and family behind, he came to the United States to establish a new home, and on arriving in Wabasha County, Minnesota, bought 160 acres in Hyde Park Township, where his wife joined him in the following year. Mr. Johnson soon sold 10 acres of his land for the Jarretts mill site, and the railroad, which cut through his farm, took another portion, but he bought enough additional land to make up the original area of 160 acres. The farm was rough and heavily timbered, but he grubbed and cleared the land, erecting buildings, and in time became one of the prosperous farmers of the county. His death took place on the old homestead, July 9, 1907. His wife survived him eleven years, passing away at the home of her daughter Ella (Mrs. Richard Preston) at Jarretts, August 16, 1918. They were the parents of seven children, the two eldest of whom, Fannie and Victor, died in Sweden. The others were: Ella, now Mrs. Richard Preston, of Jarretts; Frederick, residing in Plainview; Emma, who is a missionary at Flagstaff, Arizona; Emery, who died at the age of 15 months; and Caroline, now Mrs. Joseph Bricher, of Cottage Grove Oregon.

**Frederick Johnson**, proprietor, with his sons, of a stock and dairy farm of 320 acres, known by the name of "Ioka," and located in Elgin Township, was born in Hyde Park Township, this county, October 28, 1872, son of Edward Z. and Charlotte U. (Forslund) Johnson. His was the usual education of a farmer's boy, acquired in the district school, and he grew to manhood on the home farm, where he remained until his marriage at the age of 24 years. In 1903 he rented a farm of 160 acres in Oakwood Township, which he operated for five years. Then in 1907 he bought his parents' farm and moved onto it, registering it as "Hillcrest." Both land and buildings were badly run down, and he set to work to build it up again, remodeling the buildings, erecting barns, a silo, and outbuildings, and planting a fine orchard of 100 trees. In 1911 Mr. Johnson purchased 69 acres adjoining his place, and thus found himself in possession of a fine farm of 266 acres, where he carried on farming and dairying until 1917, making a specialty of the dairy business. He then sold that place and bought his present farm of 320 acres in sections 10 and 11, Elgin Township, which is now owned by himself and his two sons, Gordon E. and Clinton F. This is one of the best dairy farms in the township and well justifies its name of Ioka, meaning "beautiful." Mr. Johnson resided thereon until





FREDERICK JOHNSON AND FAMILY  
MR. AND MRS. EDWARD Z. JOHNSON—MRS. M. A. FANNING







November 12, 1919, when he took up his residence in Plainview village, where he had bought a nice residence in the previous month of July. He still continues active work on the farm, however, driving back and forth the distance of four and a half miles. He and his sons have made important improvements on the place, having remodeled the buildings, fenced nearly the entire farm, and set out a fine orchard. They are breeders of pure Chester-White hogs and Jersey cattle, and also raise fruits and berries. Mr. Johnson was chairman of the Hyde Park Township board for six years and was a member of the school board one term. He and his family are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. On February 12, 1896, Frederick Johnson was married to Ella E. Fanning, who was born January 28, 1874, at Hyde Park Corners, in Gillford Township, daughter of Samuel and Mary A. (Baldwin) Fanning. Of this union have been born six children: Gordon E., November 1, 1896; Clinton F., July 16, 1898; Lotta May, July 14, 1899; Vendetta E., April 13, 1905; Dorand David, June 9, 1907, and Leroy Vincent, October 21, 1909. Gordon E. married Lillian Zink of Spring Valley. Lotta May was married, June 18, 1919, to Harold K. Gregor, and lives on a farm in Oakwood Township. Vendetta E. is a student in the Plainview high school.

**Samuel Fanning**, formerly a well known farmer in Gillford and Zumbro Townships, was a native of New York State. After coming west he was married in Wabasha County, Minn., to Mary A. Baldwin, who was born in St. Louis, Mo., and they settled on the George Oliver farm at Hyde Corners in Gillford Township. Some years later they took a homestead in Zumbro Township, which, however, they later sold, moving back to Hyde Corners on the David Fanning farm. There, on December 28, 1874, Samuel Fanning died. In 1882 his widow sold the farm and moved onto the Albert Ellison farm in Gillford Township, on which she resided until 1909. She then sold that place and moved to Madelia, Minn., where she remained until 1916, since which time she has resided with her daughter, Mrs. Trella Oney, in Rochester. Mr. and Mrs. Fanning were the parents of ten children: George L. and John D., now of Madelia, Minn.; David, deceased; Edmund, of Rochester, Minn.; Walter Scott, of Madelia; Sherman, deceased; Wallace, deceased; Trella A., now Mrs. John Oney of Rochester; Ella E., wife of Frederick Johnson of Plainview, and Samuel, of Rochester. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Fanning were very active in social life. He taught the first singing-school in his locality, and furnished accommodations for the minister and his family in order that a church might be maintained in the community.

**E. S. Fanning** was born in Leydon, Lewis County, New York, and Hannah Fanning, his wife, was also born in New York State. In 1855 they came from Illinois to Wabasha County and lived here sixteen years, and here their seven children were born: Mary L., who now lives in Havre, Mont.; a son who died in infancy; Elizabeth E., who died October 4, 1887; James H., residing at Nemaha, Iowa; Ezra E., of Anoka, Minn.; Adelbert E., who lives at Storm Lake, Iowa; and Edmund S., Jr., who lives at Nemaha, Iowa. In the fall of 1871 Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Fanning moved to Sac County, Iowa, where Mr. Fanning died June 25, 1888, aged 55 years, nine months and two days. He was converted two years before he died, joined the M. E. church, and was appointed class leader. Hannah, his wife, died in Sac County, Iowa, December 17, 1907, aged 74 years, four months and 22 days.

**John Schumann**, who was a respected resident of Gillford Township for over 40 years, but has lately passed away, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, February 1, 1837. He grew to manhood in his native land and was married there, November 1, 1867, to Marie Will, also a native of Mecklenburg, born January 31, 1843. In 1873 Mr. Schumann with his family emigrated to the United States and coming to Wabasha County, Minnesota, settled in Gillford Township, where he engaged in farming. He and his wife then had three children. For the first year Mr. Schumann worked as a farm hand for others, hav-



ing arrived here very poor. At the end of that time he rented the Lippert place in West Albany Township and operated it three years. He then bought 80 acres in section 2, Gillford Township, on which farm he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, Mr. Schumann, after a successful career, being killed in an automobile accident on July 13, 1919. He had been a widower for more than a year, his wife having passed away April 16, 1918. They were the parents of the following named children: Fredericka Sophia, now Mrs. Claus Holst of Lake City; Caroline, who died in infancy; Minnie, wife of Ferdinand Brunkow of Herman, Minn.; Louis, Ida and John, who are deceased; Frederick C., a farmer in Gillford Township; William, deceased; August, who is on the home farm in Gillford Township; and Mary, who is now Mrs. Charles Abraham of Herman, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Schumann were members of the Jacksonville congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church, he being a charter member and a liberal supporter of it.

**Frederick C. Schumann**, the proprietor of a 240-acre farm in Gillford Township, was born in section 2, this township, November 25, 1877, son of John and Marie (Will) Schumann. The parents settled here in the early seventies and Frederick C. was educated in district school No. 19, at Jacksonville, which he attended to about the age of fourteen. Up to the age of 22 he remained on the home farm, assisting his father. Then on August 31, 1899, he married Catherine Ehlers, who was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, July 16, 1880, her parents being among the earliest settlers here. Mr. Schumann began farming for himself on the Henry Schlichting farm on section 2, Gillford Township, renting the place for ten years. In 1910 he removed to his present farm, which he rented up to 1913, buying it in the fall of that year. It contains 240 acres, all improved, and when he came into possession it had a good house but the other buildings were poor. Mr. Schumann has erected a frame barn, 40 by 86 by 14 feet, with a full nine-foot cement-block basement, provided with a steel equipment and with room for 75 head of cattle; a garage; a combined milk and washhouse; a hog house 22 by 34; corn cribs, an icehouse, machine shed, and a tile silo 12 by 35 feet. He has also installed a hot-air heating plant in the house and made other modern improvements. He is successfully carrying on diversified farming, giving considerable attention to stock raising. His present herd of high grade Shorthorns numbers 60 head and includes about 20 milch cows, and he has a herd of 35 to 40 grade hogs. His buildings are provided with running water and equipped with the Delco electric light system, and his operating equipment includes a Case thresher and two auto cars, a Ford and a Chevrolet. In addition to his direct farming interests Mr. Schumann is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator of Lake City, the Lake Pepin Creamery, of Lake City, in which he is also a director, and the Shipping Association of Lake City. For a number of years he has served on the school board of his district, No. 19; politically he is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Schumann are the parents of eight children, who were born as follows: Lucina M. Augusta, August 16, 1900; Lawrence Deidrich Heinrich, August 30, 1901; Harry Herman Frederick, October 12, 1902; Helen Mary Johanna, March 19, 1904; Leona Marguerite Catherine, October 9, 1905; Isabella Martha, January 28, 1907; Luella Henrietta Sophia, September 12, 1908; and Evelyn Anna, March 29, 1910. The Schumanns are one of the prominent families of Gillford Township and are affiliated religiously with the Jacksonville congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church. All the children reside at home except Lucina, who is now Mrs. John Wiebush, her husband being a farmer of Gillford Township.

**Joseph Rolandt**, a prominent representative of the farming industry in Gillford Township, was born in Mechlenburg, Germany, June 8, 1856, son of Henry and Mary (Schultz) Rolandt. He came to America with his parents in the fall of 1874, the family settling on a farm in West Albany Township, where Joseph lived until about 1894. The father, Henry Rolandt, died in the fall of



1896, and the mother in the spring of 1906. Joseph had been given a common school education in Germany and attended school two winters after coming to Wabasha County. He began working as a farm hand three days after arriving in the county, and was four years in the employ of Christ Wempner. On December 16, 1879, he married Anna Stohrman, who was born in Glasgow Township, October 27, 1862, daughter of Frederick and Mary Stohrman, and at the time of his marriage he bought a farm of 80 acres in section 13, Gillford Township, where he remained five years. He then sold that place and bought 160 acres in section 23. This was a farm with improved land, but poor buildings, and Mr. Rolandt built better ones, though with an eye to further improvements in the future. In 1906 he rebuilt the house, which is now a comfortable two-story residence; and in 1915 he erected a good frame barn and has now all necessary buildings. He is successfully following diversified farming, keeping grade Hereford cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep; he also does dairying and is the owner of a threshing outfit. In politics he is independent. He and his family are members of the Jacksonville congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church, which he served as trustee for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Rolandt have been the parents of six children: Clara S., born October 15, 1880; Alvina M., May 5, 1882; Anna Minnie, April 26, 1886; Frederick H., June 24, 1892; Joseph F., September 29, 1894; Alfred Frederick, May 18, 1901. Clara S. is still residing on the home farm. Alvina M. married John Burfeind of Mt. Pleasant Township and died May 13, 1918. Anna Minnie is the wife of Herman Heldt, a farmer of Goodhue County. Frederick H., who took a mechanical course at the Southern Normal University at Austin, Minn., served in the World War, being inducted into the U. S. service as a private in 1917. He trained at Camp Dodge, Iowa, and was promoted to corporal in the auto mechanic department, Company C, A. E. F., and served in France, going across in November, 1918. He served until March, 1919, being attached to the 313th ammunition train. Joseph F. is a farmer in Gillford Township.

**Frederick Stohrman**, a Wabasha County pioneer who had a notable and adventurous career, was a native of Hanover, Germany. He emigrated to the United States at an early day and took part in the rush to the California gold fields, where he met with more success than fell to the lot of the average adventurer. At last, not caring to stay there any longer, he returned east to Minnesota and settled at Funk's Ford on the Zumbro river in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, where he engaged in farming. He died quite well to do about the close of the Civil War period, his loss being greatly regretted. Having more money than almost any of his neighbors, he was not only able, but willing, to assist new arrivals, and a number of the pioneer settlers here owed much to his friendly help. Mr. Stohrman married Mary Ending, who survived him many years, dying October 10, 1900, in Lake City. They reared a family of four daughters and one son, the daughters who are now living, being: Emma, who married Frank Hoppe and has been a widow for twenty years, being now a resident of Breckenridge, Minn.; Eliza, who is the widow of Peter Peters and lives in Lake City, Mr. Peters having died 14 years ago; Anna, now Mrs. Joseph Rolandt of Gillford Township; Clara who is the wife of William Deifenbrock, and Frank, who is deceased.

**Max C. Wimmer**, now deceased, who was for twelve years engaged in agricultural pursuits in Gillford Township, was born at Frontenac, Goodhue County, Minn., July 24, 1866, son of George and Sophia Wimmer. The parents were natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, and came to this country at an early day, settling in Goodhue County. Max C. Wimmer was given a common school education and received his industrial training on the farm. On January 17, 1890, he married Margaret Meyer, who was born in Hanover, Germany, April 17, 1866, daughter of Carson and Anna Meyer. She came to the United States with a brother and sister, John C. and Anna, her parents coming three years later and settling in Wabasha County, Minnesota. Max C. Wimmer and wife began



home making as renters on the Candell farm in Gillford Township and remained there about seven years. They then removed to the farm on which Mrs. Wimmer now resides, in section 18, Gillford, containing 150 acres of tillable land, and which is one of the good farms of the township. It was operated by Mr. Wimmer until his death on June 24, 1902, and has since been further improved by his wife, who built in 1918 a modern two-story, ten-room house; also, in 1912, a good barn, 36 by 60 by 14 feet, with a tile basement of 8 feet; a steel mill and other necessary structures. Mr. Wimmer was a sturdy type of man, a good worker and farmer, and a respected citizen. He was a Republican in politics and served on the school board of his district No. 70. With his family he belonged to the Trinity congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church, and was liberal in its support. He assisted in building the present church edifice, which was his last work of a public spirited character. Mr. and Mrs. Wimmer became the parents of two children, both daughters, namely: Amalia Anna Georgina, born November 21, 1890, and Elda Sophia Catherine, born July 11, 1897. The elder daughter married John A. Tiedeman of Gillford Township, and has one child, Evelyn, who was born November 19, 1911. The younger daughter, Elda, is the wife of Louis P. Tiedeman, and resides with her mother, her husband operating the Wimmer farm. She has one child, Marion A., born June 8, 1919. The Wimmers are a highly respected family in the community and have a comfortable residence being supplied with a hot air furnace and lighted by electricity, with other modern conveniences.

**George J. Purcell**, in former years a successful farmer and well known citizen of Gillford Township, but now deceased, was born in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, in 1843, son of Timothy and Margaret Purcell. He was educated in the common schools, grew to manhood in his native state, and remained there until 1865, when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, Minnesota, the family locating on section 24, Gillford Township. The tract they bought consisted of 160 acres, the previous owner being a Mr. Hayes. But little of it was broken and the buildings were very poor. The Purcells at once began to make improvements, in which the son, George, took an active part, and in time a good farm was developed. On this farm George J. Purcell resided all his life, with the exception of three years spent in Lake City, and after the death of his parents he became its owner. His father died in October, 1882, and his mother on June 18, 1884. His own ownership of the property, however, lasted but a few years, as he himself passed away on December 6, 1890. Mr. Purcell was one of eight children, Richard, Thomas, Ellen, George J., Bridget, Margaret, Mary and one who died in infancy. Richard, who was a farmer, died at Ross, N. D. Thomas, also a farmer, died at Aberdeen, Wash. Ellen, who married Thomas White, died in Chicago, 1918. Bridget is the wife of John McShane of North Yakima, Wash., her husband being a fruit grower. Margaret is now Mrs. John Whelan of Waseca, Minn. Mary died at the home of her brother Thomas at Aberdeen, Wash. George J. Purcell was married on January 6, 1881, to Eliza M. Reedy, who was born in Milwaukee, Wis., daughter of Jeremiah and Mary Reedy, and who grew up in the same locality as her husband, they being acquainted in early youth. Her parents subsequently engaged in farming in Gillford Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Purcell were the parents of five children: Mary E., born November 25, 1882; Margaret A., February 22, 1884; George J., August 10, 1885; Francis J., September 10, 1887; and Helen K., November 14, 1891. Mary E. is now a graduate nurse employed in the Mayo Brothers' hospital at Rochester. Margaret, who graduated from the Lake City high school and the University of Southern Minnesota, has been a teacher in the primary department of the public schools for the last nine years. George J., who is a farmer at Alberta, Canada, is married and has four children, George Burnette, Margaret, Robert McLean and Francis J. Helen K., a graduate of the University of Southern Minnesota, has been a teacher for the last five years. Francis J., who is unmarried, is operating the home









MRS. BERTHA HUBER



farm for his mother, having been in charge since 1907. General farming is carried on and the farm is well stocked with grade Shorthorn cattle and Duroc swine. There is a good set of buildings, in 1918 a new barn having been erected, 36 by 80 by 14 feet, with a full cement block basement; also a tile silo 14 by 42 feet, with a capacity of 150 tons. The crop products of the farm are mostly fed back to the stock. George J. Purcell, Sr., was not only an industrious and successful farmer, but also a public spirited citizen, devoting some of his time to the public service. For some years he was a helpful member of the town board, and also served on the school board of his district, No. 20. Politically he was a Democrat. The family are Catholics in religious faith and members of St. Patrick's parish at West Albany.

**Albert Huber**, a native of Wabasha County, for many years engaged in farming in Greenfield Township, but now deceased, was born July 6, 1859, son of John and Caroline (Wacholtz) Huber. He received a district school education, and for a number of years worked on his parents' farm, assisting his father. After that he engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account, for a few years operating a rented farm. In 1883 he bought 80 acres in section 9, Greenfield Township, which place he improved by the erection of a house, and he subsequently followed general farming, including truck raising, and keeping some stock, until his death on May 29, 1907. Since then the farm has been successfully operated by his wife, who has put up a new barn and other buildings. Mr. Huber was married December 3, 1878, to Bertha Birkly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Birkly. Nine children were the fruit of this union, as follows: Elizabeth, born May 26, 1880, now Mrs. Victor Gustavson; John, born May 24, 1881, who died August 24, 1882; Caroline, born June 26, 1882, now Mrs. Hubert Marking; Albert, born July 3, 1884; George, born September 19, 1885; William, born June 30, 1886; Frank, born March 2, 1888, who died October 4, 1889; Louie, born July 28, 1892, who died August 26, 1892; and Louisa, born July 28, 1894. The last mentioned is now Mrs. Cyrus Hylmer of Deer Park Wis. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Catholic church.

**Hugh Leonard**, former superintendent of schools of Wabasha County, for the last six years a member of the state legislature, and who also has business and agricultural interests in the county, was born in Gillford Township, Wabasha County March 4, 1865. His parents, Hugh and Catherine (Boland) Leonard, were natives of County Fermanagh, Ireland, where they were married, and where also they continued to reside until 1855, when they came to the United States. For about four years they remained in New York state, where three children were born to them, and then in 1859 they came to Wabasha County, Minn., disembarking from a steamboat at Read's Landing almost destitute of funds. From that place to a location in Hyde Park Township—a distance of 20 miles—they proceeded on foot, Mrs. Catherine Leonard carrying her youngest child in her arms. The five or six years they spent in Hyde Park Township were years of struggle and privation, but they made some progress, and at the end of that period bought 320 acres of wild land in Gillford Township, on their tract building a log cabin. Mr. Leonard then bought a team of oxen and began the development of his new farm, a task which occupied him for many years. There he died on April 9, 1909. For the last nine years of his life he had been a widower, his wife having passed away on the home farm February 2, 1900. The children born to them were as follows: James, now a farmer near Hettinger, N. D.; Mary Ann, who married James McCaffrey, and died at St. Thomas, Minn., where her husband was engaged in farming; Michael, now deceased; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of Hugh McCaffrey, of Wabasha; Theresa, wife of Hugh McGuigan, of South St. Paul; William, a farmer in Gillford Township; Hugh, the subject of this sketch; and Thomas, who is a farmer in Gillford Township, and owner of part of the old home farm. Hugh Leonard acquired his elementary education in the common schools, after which he was a pupil for two years in the Lake City high school,



and for two years in the Winona Normal School. He then took up the profession of a teacher, and was thus occupied for three years in District 3, Pepin Township, Wabasha County, having 100 pupils enrolled. His next school was at Mazeppa, this county, Minn., which he taught three years and subsequently he spent several years in teaching other schools in the county. Having shown more than ordinary ability as an educator, Mr. Leonard was elected to the office of county superintendent, in which he served two terms, from January 1, 1899, to December 31, 1902, making as good a record as a superintendent as he had as a teacher. Since 1907 he has owned and operated 160 acres of the old home farm in Gillford Township, and now has it all under cultivation except 10 acres. He breeds Shorthorn and Durham cattle, having full blooded sires for his herds. Aside from his direct farming interests, he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Shipping and Elevator Association of Millville, which he is serving as vice president, and is president of the Plainview Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. In 1914 he was elected to the state legislature, in which body, through successive re-elections, he has since continued to serve. Politically he is a Democrat. On May 9, 1889, Mr. Leonard was united in marriage with Margaret McCulloch, who was born in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., May 31, 1891, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James McCulloch. Eight children have been born of this union, as follows: Thomas Howard, January 20, 1891; William Grover, March 30, 1893; Joseph Homer, July 4, 1896; Ambrose, March 11, 1899; John, in March, 1903; Marguerite, March 30, 1905; and Helen Angela, May 30, 1908. The eldest son, Thomas H., who is unmarried, is now living on the home farm. William G. is married and is a farmer in West Albany Township. Joseph H. is inspector in the U. S. immigration office at Winnipeg, Canada. Ambrose and John are both deceased, Ambrose having died in infancy, and John when two and a half years old. Marguerite is a student in Lake City High School. Helen Angela is residing at home with her parents. Mr. Leonard and his family are Catholics in religious faith, being members of St. Patrick's parish at West Albany, which he is serving as trustee and secretary.

**Patrick Cronin**, who took part in advancing the agricultural interests of Wabasha County by the development of a good farm in Gillford Township, but who some eight years ago joined the silent majority, was born in West Albany Township, this county, in March, 1862, son of Patrick and Mary Cronin. The parents came to Wabasha County, Minn., from Ireland in the latter fifties, locating in Hyde Park Township, whence, after a few years, they moved to West Albany Township, near the Catholic church. Both are now deceased. Patrick Cronin (Jr.) was reared on his parents' farm and educated in the district school. He followed agriculture all his life, beginning for himself at the age of 21, when he bought 320 acres of productive land in Gillford Township, section 14. When he took possession there were no buildings, but he erected a good set, including a substantial and comfortable frame house, and all necessary barns and outbuildings. With an adequate equipment he carried on general farming successfully until his death on February 13, 1911. Politically he was a Democrat, with independent tendencies, in casting his vote placing the man above the party, and in religion was a Catholic and a member of St. Patrick's congregation in West Albany Township. Mr. Cronin was married June 21, 1898, to Mary Laqua, who was born in Gillford Township, this county, January 1, 1880, daughter of William and Mary Laqua. Of this union five children were born: William P., July 12, 1899, who is now helping his mother to operate the home farm; Edward James, born January 17, 1901, who died in June the same year; Edward Joseph, born November 14, 1902, who is living on the home farm; Mary Rita, born April 17, 1905; and John Sylvester, born July 6, 1908, who being the youngest members of the family, are also living at home with their mother. After her husband's death Mrs. Cronin moved to Lake City, but in 1918 she returned to the farm, where she has since resided.









ERNEST V. FOSTER



**Frederick Scholts**, who was formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits in Gillford Township, but is now passed away, was born in Hanover, Germany, April 17, 1827. He was reared in his native land, where he became a farmer, and where in the sixties he married Marie Wiebusch. In 1877 he came with his family to Minnesota, and for six years worked on the John Martin farm in Gillford Township, Wabasha County. In 1883 Mr. Scholts moved to the Jonathan C. Haradon farm as a renter, it being a farm of 120 acres situated in section 12. Here he remained as a renter for some years, and then with his son, John, bought the property. The rest of his life was spent in cultivating and improving this farm, on which he died November 19, 1903. He and his wife had three children: John, born March 26, 1869; Rebecca, born December 19, 1873; and Margaret, born September 14, 1876. John is now manager and part owner of the farm, on which his mother, who shares the ownership with him, and his sister, Margaret, also reside, the latter being the housekeeper. The daughter Rebecca, who was married June 28, 1905, to Henry Wolfe, a mechanic of St. Paul, died in that city April 16, 1919. She left two children: Helen, born May 10, 1906, and Margaret, born April 11, 1909. The Scholts farm is a good piece of agricultural property and is situated 10 miles from Lake City. It has a good set of buildings and general farming is carried on with profitable results. Mrs. Scholts was born in Hanover, Germany, December 26, 1844. She and her children are members of the Jacksonville congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and are well known and respected throughout Gillford Township and the vicinity. Politically John Scholts is a staunch member of the Republican party.

**David Boss**, who is traveling the road to fortune along agricultural lines in the township of Gillford, was born in this township August 6, 1881, son of Andrew and Jeanette (Nesbitt) Boss. His parents, natives of Scotland, were among the Wabasha County pioneers of 1863. He was reared on the home farm and in his boyhood attended district school No. 88, continuing his studies up to the age of 17. In 1901 he was graduated from the Minnesota Agricultural College, and in 1908 he bought the home farm, on which he has always resided, and is now operating it as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Boss breeds pure blooded Hereford cattle, having now a herd of about 50, and raises about the same number of pure blood Poland-China hogs annually, together with a good grade of Shropshire sheep. He has greatly improved the buildings on his farm and has built a tile silo and other necessary structures. He has also provided himself with a first class operating equipment. His business interests are not entirely confined to his farm, as he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Shipping Association of Zumbro Falls, the Farmers' Elevator Co. of the same place, of which he is an officer; the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Zumbro Falls, the Zumbro Falls Farmers' Telephone Co., and the Terminal Packing Co. of Newport, Minn. A Democrat in politics, he has served as town clerk for the past three years and is a member of the school board of his district. He has a wide acquaintance throughout this part of the county and is universally respected.

**Ernest V. Foster**, a farmer located in section 33, Watopa Township, is a native of this township, having been born on his parents' farm, lying chiefly in section 33, on April 13, 1887, son of Samuel E. and Alice A. (Murray) Foster. He was educated in the schools of this township and of Plainview village, and, being trained to agricultural pursuits on the home farm, worked for his father until reaching the age of 21 years. He then began farming on his own account, renting a farm from his uncle, which he operated for a year. After that he worked in a pop factory for eight months, then rented the Burnham farm for a year, and after that the Starr farm for the same length of time, all these farms being in Watopa Township. At the end of that time Mr. Foster moved to Hudson, Wis., where he had charge of a dairy farm for four years. He next spent four years in Remer, Minn., where he engaged in buying stock and also filled



engagements as an auctioneer. In 1919 he returned to Watopa Township, Wabasha County, and bought his present farm of 112½ acres in section 33, where he expects to make his future home. He raises pure bred live stock, giving particular attention to pure bred Duroc-Jersey swine, a branch of the business into which he is entering on a large scale, and as an auctioneer conducts farm sales. Mr. Foster was a member of the town board of Remer two years, and also acted as town treasurer, showing public spirited activity in local affairs. He belongs fraternally to the Modern Woodmen of America. On August 7, 1908, he was united in marriage with Frances White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert White of Watopa Township. To Mr. and Mrs. Foster two children have been born: Howard W., November 25, 1910, and Doris W., December 25, 1914. The family are affiliated religiously with the M. E. church.

**Peter Copp**, one of the pioneers of Gillford Township, now deceased, was born in London, England, February 17, 1823. He came to America in 1841, at the age of about 18 years, locating in Boston, Mass., where he learned the painter's trade, binding himself to a brother as an apprentice for three years. In 1853 he was married at Bridgeton, N. J., to Elizabeth Williams, who like himself, was a native of London, England, born April 9, 1832. For about five years after his marriage Mr. Copp continued to reside in the East, but in 1858 he with his family joined the stream of emigration to the Northwest, and, arriving in Wabasha County, Minn., he filed a claim on section 24, Gillford Township. It was a claim of 160 acres of wild prairie land, and on it he built a small frame shanty and began the development of a farm. In this work he succeeded with the help of his sons, Henry and Edward W., he himself often leaving his family on the farm and living for a while at Read's Landing, where he worked at his trade of painter. These occasions were usually when such work afforded him an opportunity to earn some ready money, a commodity always scarce in pioneer days. Mr. Copp lived to the age of 72 years and finally died on his farm in Gillford Township on October 23, 1895. He was survived several years by his wife, who passed away March 12, 1910. Not a great while after first coming to this country he returned to England and spent a year there, but with that exception he never revisited his native land. He and his wife were members of the Episcopal church and in this country he was a firm adherent of the Republican party, being opposed to slavery and favoring the preservation of the Union. To Mr. and Mrs. Peter Copp were born 10 children, eight sons and two daughters. Five of these children were born in New Jersey and five in Wabasha County, Minn. They were: George, Charles, one who died unnamed in infancy, Emma, Edward W., Henry, Elizabeth A., Frederick C., Thomas H. and Peter. Charles and Emma are now deceased. Edward W. is a farmer at Curlew, Wash. Henry is a farmer in Gillford Township, Wabasha County; Elizabeth is the wife of George Pipscomb of Thief River Falls, Minn., in which vicinity Frederick C. is also living. Thomas H. is on the old homestead in Gillford Township, and Peter lives at South Troy, Wabasha County.

**Henry Copp**, better known as "Harry" Copp, a well-to-do farmer living on section 24, Gillford Township, was born in this township, on the same section, November 2, 1859, son of Peter and Elizabeth Copp. His parents, of English birth, were pioneers of this locality, filing a claim on section 24, Gillford Township, in 1858. Henry, as he grew up, not only worked on the home farm, acquiring a knowledge of agriculture, but also learned the painter's trade of his father, and followed it more or less for a number of years. In the spring of 1882 he went to Crookston, Minn., where for six years he had a paint shop and took contracts. Returning to Wabasha County in 1888, he took up his residence in Lake City, where he worked two years at his trade. In the following year, 1890, on September 10, he was married to Margaret A. Link, who was born in Gillford Township June 11, 1859, daughter of John and Margaret Link, her parents being also pioneers of this township. After his marriage Mr. Copp returned to farming, in which occupation he has



since, for the most part, continued, having worked at his trade but very little. He now owns 200 acres in Gillford Township, section 24, including the old Link homestead, formerly the property of his wife's parents. His farm is well stocked with high grade cattle and pure-blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs, and with fertile land, good buildings, and an adequate operating equipment, he is making financial progress. The Copp farm is eleven miles from Lake City and seven miles from Millville. Mr. and Mrs. Copp are the parents of seven children: Ruth E., born December 1, 1891; Archer J., September 17, 1893; Walter H., November 16, 1895; Bessie E., July 13, 1897; Margaret May, April 3, 1899; Edwin W., December 15, 1900, and Iva Mariam, October 11, 1902. Ruth E. is now the wife of Henry Doerman, a farmer of Millaca, Minn. Archer J. married Grace Geppert, daughter of Charles Geppert of Gillford Township, and is assisting his father in operating the Copp farm. Walter H. is an auto mechanic with the Chevrolet Co. of Flint, Mich. Bessie E. is the wife of Ignatz Grossbach of Mazeppa Township. The other children are residing at home, Margaret M. and Iva M. attending the Lake City high school. Mr. Copp is a Republican in politics, and he and his family affiliate with the Oak Center congregation of the M. E. church. Since 1896 he has been a member of Lake City Camp, No. 2491, M. W. A.

**John Link**, who settled in Gillford Township among the earliest arrivals, was born in Herefordshire, England, September 21, 1820. He grew to manhood in his native land, and was there married, February 17, 1848, to Margaret Rowbreg, who also was a native of Herefordshire, England, born July 21, 1819. For some years after their marriage they continued to reside in England, and then about 1851 emigrated to the United States, locating first in Illinois. Three of their children had died on the passage over. In the fall of 1856 they came to Wabasha County, Minn., taking a claim of wild land in section 24, Gillford Township, which Mr. Link subsequently developed into a farm. His wife Margaret was not long spared to him, as she died April 21, 1863. Mr. Link survived her some 32 years, dying December 17, 1886. The children, who died on the journey to America, were Ellen, John and William, respectively the second, third and fourth born. The others were Elizabeth, William, Sarah, Margaret, Emma M. and John E. Of the latter Elizabeth was born in England and the others in America.

**Charles Harlan**, one of the early settlers of Oakwood Township, arrived in the township about 50 years ago, taking 80 acres of land in section 23, which he began to improve and develop. Not satisfied with a small farm, from time to time he purchased more land until he owned 320 acres, in the meanwhile erecting buildings, including a good house, barns and outbuildings, fencing and otherwise improving his property until he had brought it into excellent condition. After an active and successful career he died March 25, 1918, one of the best known and most respected citizens of his township. Mr. Harlan married Catherine Hall, who preceded him to the Great Beyond by only a few months, passing away in September, 1917. They had been the parents of a numerous family of children, namely: Edward, who lives in California; Agnes (first) deceased; Clara, now Mrs. J. J. Ryan; Harry, a resident of Lake City, Minn.; Arthur, who lives in Montana; Catherine, wife of E. R. Holzer of Elgin Township; Loretta, now Mrs. Julius Ges-senor of Highland Township; Genevieve, widow of L. W. Lyon; Angela, now Mrs. Paul E. Cruser of Minneapolis; Eva, wife of Phil Abrahamson of Plain-view; Carl, of Oakwood; Ralph A., of Oakwood, and Agnes, residing in Plain-view.

**Ralph A. Harlan**, who owns and operates a part of the old Charles Harlan farm in section 23, Oakwood Township, was born on this farm February 16, 1896, son of Charles and Catherine (Hall) Harlan. He was educated in the district school and, as his father's assistant, acquired a good knowledge of agriculture. His industrial career was temporarily interrupted by the



war with Germany, for on January 1, 1918, he enlisted in the First Regular Division Motor Supply Train, and was soon on his way to Camp Johnson at Jacksonville, Fla. On May 1 he left for overseas, made a safe crossing, and quickly found himself at the front, and taking part in the battles and fighting at Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne. Though he escaped death and wounds, he was slightly gassed. He had entered the service as a private and was discharged with the rank of 1st class sergeant on July 12, 1919. On his return home he took charge of the farm of 120 acres which had been left him by will as a part of his parents' estate, and he is here carrying on general and diversified farming with good success. He is a member of the Shipping Association and of the Co-operative creamery at Plainview. Mr. Harlan married Mildred Sullivan, daughter of Michael J. and Nellis (Sweeney) Sullivan of West Albany Township, and he and his wife have a son, Edward. The family are Catholics in religion and Mr. Harlan belongs fraternally to the Knights of Columbus.

**John Hoffman**, who ranks among the enterprising and successful agriculturists of Highland Township, was born in Germany, December 20, 1874, son of Theodore and Margaret (Tentis) Hoffman. The family came to America in 1879, proceeding directly to Wabasha County, Minn., and buying a farm of 200 acres in Highland Township, which they made their permanent home. Mrs. Margaret Hoffman died in 1895, being survived by her husband, who passed away in 1908. They were the parents of nine children, all now living, namely: Hubert, John and Nicholas (twins), Christ, Susie, Emma, Jacob, Frank and George. Susie is the wife of William Laqua, and Emma, the wife of John Nye. Jacob resides in Minneapolis; Frank, who is an engineer, lives in Canada, and George is farming on the home place in Highland Township. John Hoffman was five years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States. He attended district school here and remained on the home farm until attaining his majority, assisting his father. Afterwards he worked out for others until 1912, in which year he bought his present farm in section 19, Highland Township. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising, including dairying, and raises graded cattle, hogs and Shropshire sheep and is making good progress along financial lines. Mr. Hoffman was married in Highland Township, in 1911, to Katie Waterson, who died November 18, 1912. On October 12, 1915, he was married at Theilman, this county, to Clara Schones, of Oakwood Township, daughter of George and Mary (Prigge) Schones. She was one of 11 children, of whom eight are now living: Pearl, May, Arthur, Harry, Lizzie, Gabriel, Bertha and Joseph. Those who died were Hazel, Francis and Nora. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman four children have been born: Virgil, Mildred, Clara and Esther, all residing at home.

**William Laqua**, proprietor of a good farm of 110 acres in sections 6 and 7, Highland Township, was born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn., April 10, 1875, son of Ernest and Rosa (Gohil) Laqua. Both parents were born in Germany, the father in a Rhine province. The latter came to the United States with his parents, William and Margaret Laqua, at a very early day, the family being numbered among the earliest settlers in this county. They homesteaded a farm in West Albany Township. Rosa Gohil came with her parents several years later, settling in the same township, where in time she and Ernest Laqua were married. They carried on general farming and stock raising until his death in 1883. Subsequently she became the wife of Edward Beck, also a native of Germany, with whom she is still living on the home farm in West Albany. By her first marriage, with Mr. Laqua, she had six children, of whom there are five now living: Anna, wife of Theodore Franke of West Albany Township; Agnes, wife of John Lillie, also of West Albany; Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Hoffman of Theilman; Ernest, who resides on the home farm, and William, subject of this sketch.









MR. AND MRS. JOHN C. SHADE



By Mrs. Laqua's second marriage, with Mr. Beck, she had one child, John, now residing in Lake City. William Laqua in his boyhood attended district school for the usual period, and worked on the home farm until the age of 19 years, when he began working out. In 1904 he branched out for himself and two years later bought his present farm of 110 acres in sections 6 and 7, Highland Township, which at the time had but few improvements. Since then he has rebuilt the house, barn and other buildings and brought the farm into good condition. He follows general agriculture, raising cattle, hogs and sheep, and has taken rank among the prosperous citizens of his township. Religiously he is a Catholic. On February 9, 1904, Mr. Laqua was united in marriage with Susanna Hoffman, daughter of Theodore and Margaret Hoffman. Her parents, who were born in Germany, came to the United States in 1879, and settling in Highland Township, this county, were engaged in farming here for the rest of their lives, Mrs. Hoffman dying in 1895 and Mr. Hoffman in 1908. They had nine children, all of whom are living, namely, Hubert, John, Nicholas, Christ, George, Jacob, Frank, Emma and Susanna. Emma is the wife of John Ney of Plainview. All are residents of Wabasha County, except Jake, who resides in Minneapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Laqua have had five children, four of whom are living, and reside at home, namely, Leo, Theodore, Mildred and Vincent. The other child, Lester, died in 1914.

**Gustus H. Lyons**, a respected citizen of Highland Township, now living practically retired on his farm in section 30, was born in East Machias Port, Maine, February 11, 1854, son of Edward and Rebecca (Benner) Lyons. His parents were both eastern people, the father being a native of Nova Scotia and the mother of Maine. The former took up his residence in Maine when a young man and engaged in the lumber business, which he followed all his life. He and his wife were married in that state and remained there until 1867, when they came west to Eau Claire, Wis., where Edward Lyons continued in the lumber industry, working in the woods, in mills and on the river log driving. He died in 1890, and his wife survived him 15 years, passing away in 1905. They had a family of 12 children, of whom three are now living: Pauline, residing in Eau Claire, Wis.; Edward, of Bellingham, Wash., and Gustus H. Those deceased are: George (first), Benjamin, George (second), Malissa, Anna, Odel, Alegree, and two who died in infancy. Gustus H. Lyons was reared in the state of Maine, where he attended school. He was 13 years old when he accompanied his parents to Wisconsin, where he continued his studies, residing in Eau Claire until reaching the age of 19. For two years after that he was engaged in lumbering on the Wisconsin river. In 1874 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in Plainview. For a while he worked on the farm of Thomas Bolton, spending his winters in the woods of northern Wisconsin. In 1882 he engaged in farming in Highland Township, on section 31, where he bought 80 acres, but later he sold that farm and bought 160 acres in section 30. For several years after Mr. Lyons began farming for himself he used to spend his winters in the woods lumbering, but in 1894 he settled down exclusively to farming, in which occupation he has since continued, raising, in addition to the usual crops, horses, cattle, hogs and Shropshire sheep. He is now practically retired, doing only light work, his son Edward managing the farm. Mr. Lyons formerly took a more or less active part in public affairs, serving as treasurer of his school district six years, being a member of the town board, of which he was chairman four years, and was four years assessor of Highland Township, in all these capacities showing himself an active and interested citizen of good business ability. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus.

**John C. Shade**, one of the pioneer settlers of Watopa Township, and a Civil War veteran, now deceased, was born in Ohio May 3, 1833, son of William and Mary (Speaker) Shade, the parents being natives of Pennsylvania. He was reared chiefly in Wisconsin, where he attended school and resided for a num-



ber of years. In 1859 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., taking a land claim in Watopa Township which he proved up in 1862. He was mustered into the Federal army September 1, 1864, as a member of Company A, Third Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, and was honorably discharged July 28, 1865. He then returned to his claim of 160 acres in section 20, Watopa Township, built a house and outbuildings and entered upon an agricultural career. In 1874 he traded that farm for one of 200 acres in section 2, Watopa, on which he also erected buildings and made improvements, and was there engaged in farming until his death on October 9, 1887. He was a highly respected citizen of his township and in his latter years was a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Wabasha County. His religious affiliations were with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Shade was first married to Charlotte Smith, who died in October, 1865, leaving one son, T. W. Shade, now residing in West Albany Township. On December 21, 1869, Mr. Shade was united in marriage with his second wife, Mrs. Mary E. Foster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Collier, of Illinois. By her first husband she had a son, George Foster, who is now living near Kellogg. The issue of Mr. Shade's second marriage was a daughter, Mary, born November 1, 1880, who on January 14, 1904, married William Grainer. She has had four children, of whom two are living, the record being as follows: Wyman W., Floyd F., who died May 31, 1915; Elmo A., who died May 24, 1912, and Viola. Mr. and Mrs. Grainer have rented the Shade farm from Mrs. Shade and are now residing on and operating it.

**Royal E. Zickrick**, proprietor of a farm in Highland Township, was born in St. Charles, Winona County, Minn., son of Edward W. and Hattie (Biers) Zickrick. The father was a native of Wisconsin and the mother of Ohio. They came to Minnesota when young, were subsequently married in Olmsted County, and in 1910 settled on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, having farmed for some years in the neighboring county of Winona, in the vicinity of St. Charles. It was in Winona County that their son Royal was reared to manhood, acquiring his education in the district school and in the high school at St. Charles, where he was graduated in 1901. After that he worked on the home farm for one year, and then, at the age of 21, went farming with his brother Silas, with whom he was associated for three years. Desirous of improving his education, he took a course at Mankato Business College, after which he was employed for two years at Madelia. Later, after working a short time for H. L. Reiter, he returned to farming and was thus employed for four years at West Concord. He subsequently followed the same occupation for three years at Pine Island, and came to his present farm in section 14, Highland Township. The farm has an area of 200 acres, with adequate buildings, and Mr. Zickrick is profitably carrying on general farming, raising graded cattle and Poland China hogs, besides doing some dairying. He is fraternally affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Zickrick was married at Red Wing, Minn., June 23, 1909, to Florence R. Cook, daughter of George H. and Ella (Corson) Cook. Her father was a native of Dumont, Iowa, and her mother of Minnesota. The former was for some time a merchant in Red Wing and is now operating a general store at New Hampton, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Zickrick are the parents of four children: Lark M., born June 28, 1910; Janette E., born July 7, 1912; Dorothy M., born December 20, 1914, and Cyril F., born July 25, 1918, all residing at home.

**Edward W. Zickrick**, now living retired on a farm in Highland Township, on which he was actively engaged in farming for 10 years, was born in Lomira, Dodge County, Wis., March 21, 1851, son of Michael and Gustina Zickrick. The parents were natives of Germany, who came to the United States on a sailing vessel in 1848, settling first in Milwaukee, and later at Lomira, Dodge County, where they bought a farm, the site of which is now occupied by that city. In 1864 they moved to Elba Township, Winona County, Minn., taking a farm of 200 acres on the township line next to St.



Charles, which they operated for five years. They then moved to St. Charles, where Michael Zickrick engaged in the brick-making industry, and was thus occupied thereafter until his death in 1888. His wife died in 1909 at the home of a daughter in Owatonna. Michael and Gustina Zickrick had 12 children, one of whom died in infancy. Those who grew to maturity were Michael, Edward W., Mary, Minnie, Gust, Jule, Lydia, Sarah, Jacob, Richard and Emma. Mary, who married Gust Zick of St. Charles, is now deceased. Gust, who lives near Milaca, Minn., has a son, Lisle, who served in the World War. Jule, who was a conductor on the Northwestern railway running out of Winona, is now deceased. Lydia married Oscar McKinley, of Los Angeles, Calif. Sarah, who married George Maxfield, is now a widow residing at Covine, Calif. Jacob is engaged in mining, his residence being in Seattle, where Richard also lives. Emma is now deceased. Edward W. Zickrick was reared up to the age of 13 years on his parents' farm in Wisconsin. In 1864 he accompanied his parents to Minnesota, resided on the home farm in Elba Township, Winona County, where he received his agricultural training, and in that county was engaged in general farming until he came to Wabasha County in 1909. He then bought 160 acres in sections 12 and 13, and engaged in general farming and stock raising, which line of enterprise he followed until the fall of 1919, at which time he retired from active work. His operations were crowned with a success earned by hard work, and he is now in the possession of an ample competence. His recollections go back to pioneer days, when he and his father used oxen on the farm and there was little agricultural machinery in use, and that of a primitive type. Mr. Zickrick was married in Quincy Township, Olmsted County, Minn., to Hattie Biers, July 18, 1878. She was a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Stark) Biers. Her parents were natives of Bavaria, Germany, who came to the United States in 1852, settling in Ohio, where they were married. In 1866 they came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Olmsted County, where Mrs. Elizabeth Biers died in 1902 and Frederick Biers in 1912. They were the parents of the following children: Caroline, wife of Louis Lietz of Olmsted County; Elizabeth, who married Otto Stoltz of Argyle, Minn.; Harriet, Katie and Emma, the last mentioned of whom is the wife of John Bolton of Elgin, Minn.; William, of Winona, and Charles, of Little Valley, Minn. To Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zickrick four children have been born: Silas, who is a farmer in Highland Township; Royal, who married Florence Cook of Red Wing, Minn., and is also farming in Highland Township; Etta, wife of Elmer Pomeroy, of Dunn County, Wis.; and Arnum, who married Caroline Sass, and lives on a farm in West Albany Township. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**John Nordine**, vice president of the Jewell Nursery Company of Lake City, and one of the leading horticulturists of Wabasha County, was born in Vermeland, Sweden, July 22, 1852, son of John Pearson Nordine and his wife, Britta K. (Anderson) Nordine. His parents lived and died in their native land, and there he, himself, remained for a number of years, acquiring his education in the public schools, and also spending three years in the army officers' school. He early made a practical acquaintance with farm work, and also to some extent with nursery work. In 1882, having then been married six years, he came with his family to Minnesota, and at once located in Lake City, beginning work as a laborer for the Jewell Nursery Company. Three years later he became one of the department foremen. His next promotion was to the position of superintendent of the propagation department, and this he still holds. In 1917 he was made vice president of the company, and in 1918 was elected manager of all outside work. In 1908 Mr. Nordine built his present fine residence, situated near the plant, thoroughly modern, and beautifully surrounded by flowers and shrubbery. For many years he has been a member of the State Horticultural Society. His rise in life has been the result of close study and unremitting industry, and he is today one of the leading



authorities on arboriculture and horticulture in the state. Mr. Nordine has also various other activities which with his regular work keeps him busy. For nine years he was a member of the Board of Education of Lake City, and is now chairman of the Swedish Baptist church. He also belongs to the Masonic order, in which he has advanced as far as the Commandery, and to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Equitable Fraternal Union. He was married in Sweden, January 24, 1876, to Ida C. Carlson, who, like himself, was born in Vermland, December 12, 1854. The issue of this marriage are five children: Charles G., born February 27, 1877; Louis F., October 19, 1884; Martha V., March 12, 1892; Edith E., March 24, 1894, and Paul R., November 20, 1898. Charles G. married Marie Olson of Stockholm, Wis., and has seven children: Roy M., Grace M., Carl F., Margaret R., Donald E., James and Marion. Louis F., who is superintendent of the sales department of the Moline Vacuum Heat Co., at Moline, Ill., married Mildred G. Anderson, of Brookings, S. D., and has three children, Florence, Louis and John Jr. Martha V. is the wife of Rev. P. Alfred Peterson, a minister of the Swedish Baptist church at Brainerd, Minn. Edith E. and Paul R. are still residing at home.

**William Duffus**, one of the notable pioneers of Wabasha County, now deceased, was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, October 8, 1828, son of James and Margaret (Allan) Duffus. He was the second born in a family of three children—two sons and a daughter. The parents were poor and the father died when William was but eight years old. Consequently, young though he was, the subject of this sketch had to do something to help keep the wolf from the door, finding such opportunity in herding cows for a neighbor. While thus employed, he attended night school during the summers and daily school in the winters, thus acquiring a common school education. In 1853 he came to America, locating first at Racine, Wis., where he arrived with 35 cents in his pocket. There he remained two years employed in a flour mill, and at the end of that time came to Minnesota. He had by this time through strict economy saved \$1,000, which he invested, while on the way to Wabasha County, in village property at La Crescent, Minn. This proved a poor investment. The family still own the property, but it has never yielded an income more than sufficient to pay the taxes and keep up the repairs. Arriving at Reed's Landing, Mr. Duffus went thence on foot to West Albany Township, where, in the fall of 1855, with George Wilson and George Perry, who like himself, had invested some money at La Crescent, he took up land, a tract of 160 acres on what is now section 12. It was unimproved prairie land, and Mr. Duffus broke it, but not being satisfied with the property, he sold out and bought 160 acres in section 3. When he selected the land he walked across the prairies and through the coulees by Indian trail to Faribault, where the land office was located, a distance of 55 miles and return. On the 160 acres bought in section 3, but little had been broken, but there was a poor frame house and pole stables thatched with prairie hay; in short, the surroundings were as unpromising as might be. There he lived alone for a while, however, but finally becoming discouraged, he rented the place and went to Illinois. Subsequently, however, he returned and resumed work on his place. There was plenty of game, and Indians were numerous in the vicinity. One season after Mr. Duffus had seeded his land, the wild pigeons came in such numbers as to darken the air. Sweeping down upon his corn field, they devoured the fresh sown grain so that he had to reseed the land. In threshing he first used the ancient method of having the oxen tread out the grain. Afterwards he made use of the flail, and at a much later period he invested in a horse-power thresher, which was the first used in this section. On October 15, 1868, Mr. Duffus married Anne Wilson, daughter of James and Anne (Ballack) Wilson. She was born in Banffshire, Scotland, October 22, 1836, and on October 15, 1867, set out for America with her brother George. After arriving in Wabasha County, Minn., she made her home with a bachelor brother,



John, who had preceded them to this country, and continued to reside with him until her marriage. At times Mr. Duffus was tempted to return to Illinois, but his wife declined to sign the papers necessary to the sale of their land, not wishing to leave her relations here. Thus being obliged to remain, he made the best of circumstances and did all he could to improve his property and make his surroundings more tolerable, and in this he succeeded, though it was a work of time. Prosperity came at last, the farm was well developed, with a good residence and other buildings, the house being surrounded with evergreens, and neighbors had come in to relieve the monotonous isolation and brighten the daily routine of existence with social converse, and mutual hospitality. In the early days, before his marriage, Mr. Duffus had felt this isolation so much that, hearing there was such a place as Lake City, he with two or three others for whom the word "city" possessed a strong attraction, harnessed up an ox team, and, taking three days' provisions, set out to find it. The feat was accomplished in one day, but needless to say, they saw no bright lights, department stores or marble palaces. In fact, the other members of the party, when they reached the goal, thought they had lost their way and started on the return home, where all arrived not much the worse for their voyage of discovery, and not much the better. Mr. Duffus carried on general farming and kept good stock. He added to his farm in section 3, 160 acres adjoining on the north and 80 acres on the west, the latter, however, after selling the north addition. Besides this he owned 160 acres near Cottonwood, in Lyon County, Minn., which tract he subsequently sold. At his death he owned in all 270 acres, 240 in section 3, West Albany and 30 acres of timber land in Glasgow Township. In September, 1907, he left the farm, and bought a comfortable residence in Lake City, at the corner of Lyon avenue and Garden street, where his widow and daughter now live. Here he passed away, October 3, 1908. He had previously divided his land, giving to his son John the 80-acre tract on which the farm buildings stood, the south 80 acres to his wife, and the west 80 to his daughter Margaret. Some time before his retirement he had leased his plow land, keeping control of the pasture and meadow land, and giving his attention to breeding pure-blooded Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep, and to the apiary business, in all of which occupations he was an adept and highly successful. He and his wife had two children: Margaret Allan, born March 27, 1871, now residing with her mother; and John Alexander, born May 14, 1876, who is living on the home farm. Religion was a controlling power in Mr. Duffus' daily life, and in those of his wife and children, and he and they were instrumental in establishing religious services in the community, which for several years at an early period were held in the school house. In 1884 a church building was erected near the Duffus home, to which Mr. Duffus contributed liberally of his means, and with his own hands he built the stone foundation. He also boarded the workmen free, and did much else to advance the cause, and for years he served the church as an elder. It is known as the United Presbyterian Church, and is located in what is known as the Scotch Settlement, the people in the vicinity being nearly all from Banffshire, Scotland. It is, and long has been, noted for its strong Sunday school, also for its Literary Debating Society and Young People's Society, and in all these phases of church work the Duffus family took a deep and active interest. Their home was always open to any social or church affair calculated to promote the interest of the community, and was frequently selected, the people of the community knowing that they would receive a hearty welcome. Often the entire neighborhood—some 50 or 60 men, women and children—sat at table on these occasions, and this spirit of hospitality still remains with the surviving members of the family. Mr. Duffus was of a quiet disposition, kind and gentle, and upright in his dealings with all, but his word was law in the household. In politics he was a staunch Republican, but was not active in public affairs except as a mem-

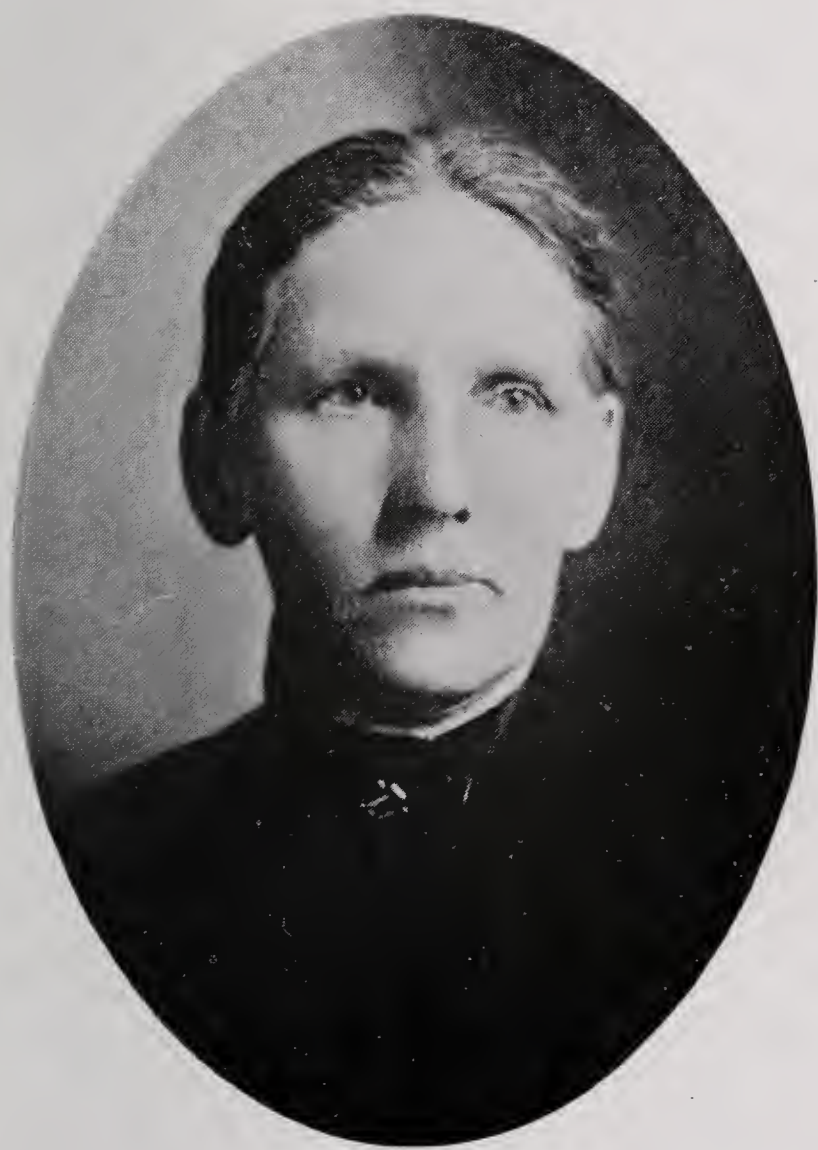


ber of the school board. He was a strong advocate of temperance, and set a good example in his daily life, for which he is held in honored remembrance.

**John Sexton**, one of the pioneer settlers of Hyde Park Township, now deceased, was born in County Limerick, Ireland, May 12, 1827, son of John and Nora (Flynn) Sexton. In the early fifties, leaving his parents in the old country, he came to the United States, finding employment in Pittsburg, where he remained for five years. In 1858 he came on to Wabasha County, Minn.; and bought a homestead of 160 acres in section 1, Hyde Park Township, the land being all wild. After taking possession he returned to Pittsburg, where he married Catherine Flannigan, and in the spring of 1860 he brought his wife to Wabasha County, coming up the river by boat to Read's Landing, and from there with an ox team to Hyde Park Township. Beginning the work of improvement, he broke the land and erected buildings which were good for that period. About 1868 his wife died, leaving six children, among whom were two pairs of twins. All these children are now deceased. Mr. Sexton remained unmarried for several years, or until November 8, 1873, when he took for his second wife Mary Elizabeth Becker, daughter of Joseph and Wilhelmina (Fox) Becker of Wabasha. She was of German ancestry but was born in West Virginia, July 5, 1853. Her mother subsequently dying in Maryland, the father remarried, and with him and her stepmother she came to Wabasha, Minn., where she was reared to womanhood. Mr. Sexton was a sturdy type of man, made of the right material for a pioneer. He had attended common school in Ireland when a lad, but was a worker rather than a scholar, and in time he developed a good farm. In addition to his original farm of 160 acres he bought 16 acres of woodland in Oakwood. He was a Catholic in religious faith, while politically he voted for the man rather than with any particular party. By his second wife Mr. Sexton had 12 children: Wilhelmina, born December 19, 1875; Honora, March 9, 1877; John, January 19, 1879; Johanna, August 7, 1880; Sarah, July 11, 1883; Thomas P., April 25, 1885; Edmund W., January 9, 1887; Rose, November 19, 1888; Josephine, December 19, 1890; Walter M., April 25, 1893; Clara, August 2, 1895, and Francis Leo, July 13, 1898. Wilhelmina is now Mrs. Leonard Voyer of St. Paul, Minn., and Honora, the wife of John Thornton of Gillford Township. John died October 23, 1890, in his tenth year. Johanna is now Mrs. Frank Hall of Hyde Park Township. Thomas P. resides in Gillford Township. Edmund W. is one of the younger successful farmers of Oakwood Township, owning a farm of 160 acres. He was married, September 19, 1916, to Agnes Laqua, and has two children: Richard, born November 11, 1917, and Rose, born June 20, 1919. Rose Sexton (daughter of John and Mary Sexton) is now Sister Venentia in a convent at Jamestown, N. D., (O. S. B.). Sarah, Josephine, Clara, Walter M. and Francis Leo are on the home farm. Walter M. served in the world war, being inducted into the United States' service, August 27, 1918. He trained at Camp Grant, Ill., and was a member of the 20th Company, 161st Depot Brigade. Later he was transferred to the U. S. Base Hospital at Camp Grant, being attached to the Medical Department. While in the service he suffered from influenza. He was discharged June 13, 1919. Thomas P. Sexton was married February 10, 1915, to Helen Miesen, of Minneapolis, who was born in that city March 16, 1892, daughter of Nicholas and Gertrude Miesen. He owns a good farm of 160 acres in Gillford Township, and is enjoying a successful career, raising grade stock in addition to the usual crops. He and his wife are the parents of a son, John N., who was born November 8, 1917. The Sextons are all members of the Catholic church, and stand well in the community for their industrious habits and good neighborly qualities.

**William Huddleston**, a well-to-do resident of Lake City, widely known and respected, is one of the few remaining pioneers of Wabasha County and of Minnesota. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., November 8, 1848, son of





MR. AND MRS. JOHN SEXTON







David and Jane (Cochrane) Huddleston. The parents were natives of Ireland, in which country the father was born in 1805 and the mother in 1815. David Huddleston became a farmer, which he remained while in his native land, where he married Jane Cochrane. In the early thirties they emigrated to the United States, resided for a time in New York City, and then settled on a farm in Erie County, N. Y. In 1852 they came west to Wisconsin, in which state they remained for a year. At the end of that time a further migration brought them to Winona County, the journey being made overland with five yoke of oxen, one horse and four cows. They settled on land now the site of the City of St. Charles, and also at one time owned what is now the site of Utica, Minn. David Huddleston helped to build the first log house in Rochester, and at the time they arrived in Minnesota there was not a house between Rochester and Winona. After farming for many years, he died April 19, 1892, at the home of his son William in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County. His wife died in Donnelly, Minn., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Hartung, on August 19, 1894. Of their children, three died in infancy. Eliza, born January 27, 1835; Margaret, born May 18, 1837, and James, born August 18, 1838, are also deceased. The survivors are: Thomas, born August 18, 1839, now residing at Dumfries, Wabasha County; David, born July 27, 1841, a resident of Lake City; James (second), born February 8, 1843, now of Ladysmith, Wis.; John, born February 23, 1846, living in Denver, Colo.; William, born November 8, 1848, of Lake City, Minn.; Margaret, born March 4, 1851, now Mrs. John Hartung of Lake City; and Jane, born September 4, 1854, now Mrs. John Cochrane of River Falls, Wis. When William Huddleston was ten years old, his mother removed with him and two of his sisters to Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, buying a homestead right of 160 acres, which she proved up, and on which she resided until her death. Upon William she depended to a large extent to manage the farm, a task for which he proved competent, as at the age of 13 he was drawing a man's wages of \$13 a month, and was driving seven yoke of oxen on a breaking-plow. The men for whom he drove, Mike Redman and James Strain, paid him, however, in reciprocal labor, building a fence for him on the farm. Of this farm he came into full possession and increased its original area to 260 acres. Besides erecting a good set of buildings, he brought 250 acres under the plow, and followed general farming successfully until 1900, when he sold his Glasgow property and moved into Lake City. Here he owns five houses and lots and has other investments. For over 20 years he bought and shipped cattle from this section, and was an active factor in building up the agricultural and stock raising interests of the county. A Republican in politics, he served for a number of years on the Glasgow Town Board, and was a man to whom his fellow citizens felt they could safely intrust public interests. Mr. Huddleston was married March 25, 1885, to Margaret, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Sweat) Hope, of Glasgow Township. He and his wife attend the Congregational church.

**Martin J. O'Laughlin**, who for the last five years has been postmaster at Lake City, is a man with good business experience in several lines of industry, and a creditable public record, having formerly served Wabasha County as auditor and this district in the State Legislature. He is a native son of the county, having been born at Lake City, June 28, 1859. His parents were Michael and Mary O'Laughlin, both natives of Ireland. The father came first to America, in 1835, locating in New Jersey, where he lived for seven years engaged in railroad work and contracting. He came to Wabasha County in May, 1857, but was married in Ireland, going back to that country for his bride. They settled on 160 acres of wild land in Mt. Pleasant Township, which they developed into a good farm. There Michael O'Laughlin died October 3, 1868, after laboring for ten years on the place. His wife survived him many years, dying in Lake City, September 19, 1895. They had



six children: Margaret, born in Oswego, N. Y., now living in Lake City; Anna, born in Oswego, and now residing in Lake City; James, born in Oswego, and Michael, born in Ireland, who are living in Williston, N. D., retired; Martin J., of Lake City, and Frank M., who is living in Lake City, retired. The father, who was a Democrat in politics, cast his first vote for Martin Van Buren. Martin J. O'Laughlin in his boyhood attended school in Wabasha County and remained on the home farm until 1891. In 1890 he was elected county auditor and served for two successive terms, during his incumbency of the office residing in Lake City. Between 1890 and 1903 he was engaged in the grain business in North Dakota, his home, however, being in Lake City. In the meanwhile he had made many friends, and in 1902 was elected to the State Legislature, in which he served two terms, being re-elected in 1904. After 1905 when his last term in the legislature expired, he engaged in the real estate business in Lake City, and was thus occupied for ten years, or until 1915, when he was appointed to his present position as postmaster of Lake City. He has an established reputation as a reliable citizen and competent official and is universally popular. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. O'Laughlin was married June 27, 1893, in Wabasha, Minn., to Margaret, daughter of Lawrence and Mary Calhoun of that place. He and his wife have had three children: John C., born in Wabasha in 1894; Richard E., born in Lake City, September 19, 1895, and Robert, born February 18, 1918. John C. died in 1908. Richard E. is now serving in the Engineer Corps of the United States army. Robert is a student in the Lake City high school.

**James P. Martin**, a well known business man of Lake City, formerly in the stock raising business, but now connected with real estate interests, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., October 31, 1846, son of James P., Sr., and Elizabeth (Gorman) Martin. He was the only member of his parents' family to come west, which he did in 1868, as a young man of 18, locating in Lake City, Minn. Here he entered into the livery business with W. E. Perkins, their partnership lasting for 20 years. Mr. Martin then sold his interests in the business and at Central Point began raising pure-bred horses for track purposes, and also pure-bred Jersey cattle. After continuing in that business for about ten years he sold out and entered the real estate business, in which he has since continued, though for the last few years he has not been so active as formerly. As a stock breeder he achieved a fine record, becoming well known over the entire South and West. Though Mr. Martin has never engaged actively in farming, he owns three good farms, one in Wisconsin, near Maiden Rock, Pierce County, and two in Minnesota, the three aggregating 375 acres. He also owns a comfortable home at the corner of Lyon avenue and Prairie street in Lake City, which he occupies. He has been identified with the growth of the city for the last 53 years and has carved out his own fortune, having started with the slender capital of but \$50, the amount he had on his arrival here. Politically he is a Democrat, but his active career has been confined to business lines. His fraternal affiliations are with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, he having been a member of the local lodge of that order for a number of years. Mr. Martin was married in March, 1868, to Julia Frances Hart, daughter of James and Catherine Hart, of Malone, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., the marriage occurring about a month before they came west. Mrs. Martin was born October 27, 1846, and died in Lake City July 8, 1918. She and her husband became the parents of four children: William J., Elizabeth N., Frank H., and James J. William J., who resides with his father, is a telegrapher in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co. Elizabeth N., is the wife of C. H. Barber, who is employed in the government revenue department at St. Paul. Frank H. is on his father's farm in Pierce County, Wis., while James J. is a prosperous farmer near Farmington, Olmsted County, Minn.



**Henry Wodele**, a progressive farmer of Greenfield Township, operating a farm of 293 acres, of which he is the owner, was born in this township July 30, 1880, son of John and Clara (Beiver) Wodele. He was educated in the district school and until 1905 was engaged in working for his father. He then rented 293 acres, 160 acres lying in Greenfield and the rest in Glasgow and Wabasha Townships, and engaged in agriculture on his own account. In 1910 he bought the farm, which is the one on which he still resides, and where he is successfully carrying on mixed farming, including the raising of garden truck and high grade stock. He has improved his buildings by the erection of additions and has installed a Delco lighting plant, bringing the entire place into good condition, with modern equipment. In addition Mr. Wodele has given some time to public affairs, having formerly served one year as assessor of his township, and six years on the school board of District No. 5. He is a member of the Catholic church, also of the Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph's Society and the Equitable Fraternal Union. Mr. Wodele was united in marriage October 4, 1904, with Sophia Bootz, daughter of Ambroise and Sophia (Berkley) Bootz. Her parents came to Minnesota from Germany in the fifties, settling in Wabasha County. Mrs. Bootz died when her daughter Sophia was only two weeks old, and the father in 1915. They had three children, Bertha, Joseph and Sophia, of whom Joseph is no longer living. Mr. and Mrs. Wodele have had 11 children, born as follows: Clara E., July 8, 1905; Clarence C., December 24, 1906; Mabel R., April 23, 1908; Ethel A., June 8, 1909; Harriet T., September 26, 1911; Mary V., January 7, 1913; John H., April 30, 1915; Ralph R., March 26, 1916; Helen M., May 29, 1917; Bernice L., February 27, 1919, and Harold M., May 5, 1920. Harriet T. died in infancy, April 4, 1912.

**George H. Christison**, a leading representative of the agricultural interests of Plainview Township, was born in Waukesha County, Wis., November 9, 1862, son of John and Elizabeth (Allison) Christison. The parents were natives of Scotland, but were married in Wisconsin, and were engaged there in farming, an occupation which John Christison followed all his life. In the spring of 1872 he came with his family to Wabasha County, Minn., renting a farm in Plainview Township, which he operated until 1889. He then bought a farm of 80 acres in section 30, on which he resided until 1894, when he retired and moved to Owatonna, Minn., where he died. His wife died in August, 1918. They had 12 children: Margaret, wife of T. W. Morris of Brookings, S. D.; George H., of Plainview Township; Elizabeth (a twin sister of George H.), who is now Mrs. Eugene Wedge, of Plainview; William, who met an accidental death by drowning in Milwaukee; Wallace, now of Ripon, Wis.; Edward, who is residing in British Columbia; Clara, now a teacher in Great Falls, Mont.; Harry, a resident of Swift County, Minn.; Helen, who is teaching in Owatonna; Lucy, wife of Henry Kline of Halliday, N. D.; Percy of Clinton Falls, Minn.; and Chester, of Swift County, Minn. George H. Christison acquired his primary education in Wisconsin and subsequently attended school in Plainview, Minn. After becoming industrially active he worked out by the month until 1893, in which year he began farming for himself, buying 80 acres of land in section 19, Plainview Township. The land comprised the entire property, as there were no buildings. These he has himself erected, including a good residence and a barn, 34 by 72 feet in size, with other outbuildings necessary to a farmer. He has also installed a private electric light plant which furnishes light for all the buildings, as well as the yard. In addition to these improvements he has increased the area of his farm by the purchase of more land, and it now contains 240 acres—160 acres in section 20, and 80 in section 19—making his total land holdings amount to 240 acres. Such an accumulation of property indicates a prosperous career, not counting the fact that he is also a stockholder in the Plainview Co-operative Creamery Association, of which he has been the president for eight years. As a general farmer he has been energetic and far-sighted, and his operations have been more than ordinarily successful.



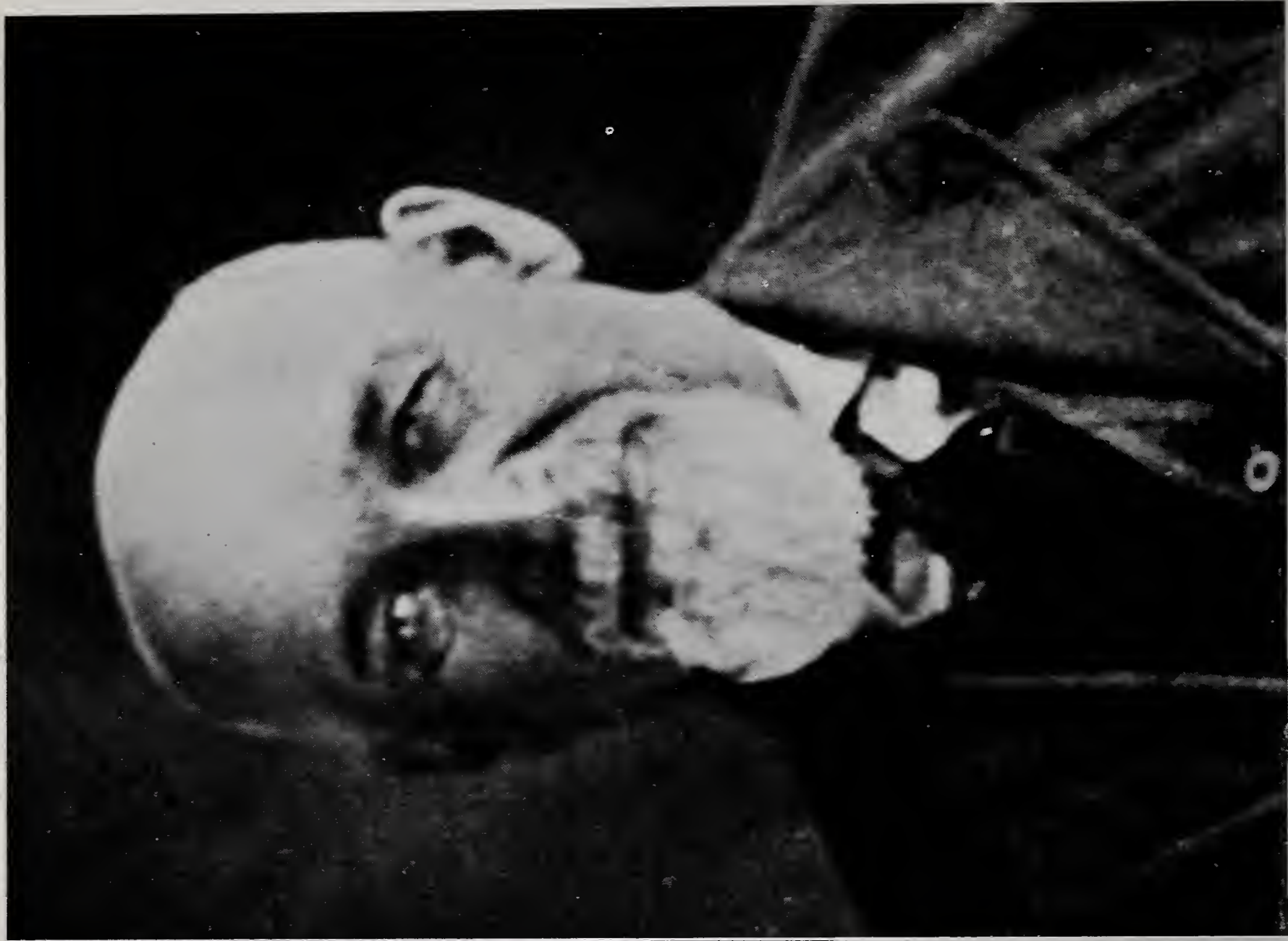
He makes a specialty of dairying, keeping Jersey cattle, of which he has at the present time about 26; ships on an average of 80 Duroc-Jersey swine yearly; and also breeds Percheron horses and Shropshire sheep, of the latter now having a flock of about 60. He is a member of the Plainview Stock Shipping Association. His society affiliations include membership in the Old Settlers' Association and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his family attend the Congregational church. Mr. Christison was married December 24, 1900, to Addie Horn, of Plainview, who was born in Plainview Township, daughter of John and Nancy Horn, and who died October 31, 1918. He and his wife became the parents of three children: William J., born November 23, 1901; Mildred E., September 7, 1906, and Everett G., July 8, 1909. All three are residing on the home farm. William J. is a graduate of the Plainview High School in the class of 1920, while the other two are attending the public school. Such in brief outline is the sketch of one of Wabasha County's modern and most progressive farmers—a class of men who, though they have not had to contend with the difficulties experienced by their predecessors, the pioneers, have carried the science of agriculture to a point never dreamed of by those early settlers in the days of their most vigorous labors, and are enjoying a reward far beyond what they ever received.

**Moritz Anding**, one of the hardy pioneers of Wabasha County, now deceased, who developed a farm in Gillford Township, was a native of Germany, where he learned and followed the trade of cooper. He was there married to Dorothy Clemenhausen, and continued his residence in his native land until 1853, when he came with his family to America, locating in Iowa County, Wis., not far from the village of Highland. The nearest place worth calling a market was Galena, Ill., 50 miles distant, whence with an ox team he hauled his farm products and brought back necessary supplies. When he arrived at Highland from Germany he had practically no money. The trip had been a long one, lasting nearly three months, as they had crossed the ocean in a sailing vessel, and as there was no railroad from Madison, Wis., to Highland, they hired a team to transport them and their luggage. The hire of this wagon and team cost \$25, and the driver refused to unload their things until he had been paid. This Mr. Anding was unable to do, and the neighbors, who proved very kind, came to his assistance. His family then numbered seven people, and to support them he worked at whatever he could find to do, laying stone, plastering, or anything else. In the spring of 1866 he came with them to Wabasha County, Minn., having previously bought some wild land in section 13 Gillford Township, and his son William having come the previous fall and being already on the ground. William in the meanwhile had been splitting rails and fencing the farm. With this son's assistance Mr. Anding grubbed and cleared the land and built a frame house, hauling the lumber from Read's Landing with horses, as he had brought two horse teams from Wisconsin. On this farm Mr. Anding lived seven years, at the end of which time he sold 80 acres of it to his son William, and the rest to a neighbor, and moved with his wife to Read's Landing. There Mrs. Anding died in the fall of 1878, and Mr. Anding subsequently married a lady of Minneapolis, where he took up his residence and died in August, 1897. By his first wife, Dorothy, he had eight children: Mary, now the widow of Fred Stahman, formerly of Lake Township, Wabasha County; Georgiana, who married Charles Hornbaghen, a carpenter of Read's Landing; Frederick, deceased; William, of Gillford Township; Mary, the widow of Capt. Henry Slocum of Winona; Charles, a resident of Winona; Herman, an engineer who died at Pierre, S. D., where his family is still living; and Lizette, wife of Edwin Porter of St. Paul. Mr. Anding was a hard worker and a useful man in his township, ready to lend a hand to any project for the public welfare. He donated and hauled the lumber for the first schoolhouse, which he also built, with the assistance of Sam McCullom. His son William, then only a boy, drove the team which hauled the first load of lumber for the schoolhouse. Mr. Anding









MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM ANDING



also served as first treasurer of the school district, and that office has always been held by some member of the family, his grandson, William H., being now the incumbent.

**William Anding, Sr.**, a leading citizen of Gillford Township, where he was in former years actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now retired, was born in Hesse, Germany, March 16, 1847, son of Moritz and Dorothy (Clemen-hagen) Anding. He was a young child when he accompanied his parents to America, and resided with them for a short time near Highland, Wis. In the fall of 1855 he came alone to Gillford Township, Wabasha County, Minn., to split rails and fence a farm, or tract of wild land, that his father had purchased here in section 13, and was joined by the rest of the family in the following spring. This farm he helped his father to develop, and when his parents moved to Read's Landing, about 1873, William Anding bought 80 acres of the home farm, where he has since resided. His original 80 acres, however, have been increased by him to 400, by additional purchases, and he has developed an excellent farm. Industrious and frugal, he achieved success, and continued actively engaged in agricultural work until 1905, when he retired, and has since led a life of comparative leisure. His son, William H., operates the original 80 acres of the old homestead. William Anding, Sr., was married March 19, 1872, to Magdalena Kirchner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Kirchner of Glasgow Township, Wabasha County. She was born in La Crosse County, September 16, 1854, being the first white child born in that locality. She died June 23, 1918, after 46 years of happy married life, and was laid to rest in Jacksonville cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. William Anding, Sr., had five children, all of whom are now living and prosperous. They are as follows: Charles F., born October 21, 1873, now a resident of Gillford Township; William H., born August 14, 1875, also of Gillford Township; Martha E., born April 23, 1878, who married Frederick Engel of West Albany Township, but is now living in Elgin Township; Adeline M., born December 23, 1882, who is at home keeping house for her father; and Lillian A., born April 8, 1893, who is now Mrs. Edward Wieck of Gillford Township. All these children were given a common school education, and Charles F., in addition, attended agricultural school for two winters. Mr. Anding is a member and liberal supporter of the Lutheran church, which he has served for years as treasurer.

**Ernest J. K. Strandberg**, a partner in the Strandberg Art Glass Co. of Lake City, was born near Stockholm, Sweden, March 3, 1876, son of C. J. and Olivia Strandberg. He was educated in the common schools of his native land, which he attended up to his graduation at the age of 12 years. During the two following summers he worked on a farm. At the age of 14 he began to learn the glass cutter's trade, which he subsequently followed in Sweden until 1903, when, having in the meantime married, he came to the United States, locating first in New York. Later he and his brother, T. H. Strandberg, with a partner, G. Carlson, established the Twin City Cut Glass Co. In the fall of 1911 a branch of the business was established in Lake City, and continued under the same name until April, 1911, when the triple partnership was dissolved and a new one formed of the Strandberg brothers, under the present firm name of the Strandberg Cut Glass Co. The head office and plant of the concern are still located in St. Paul the subject of this sketch having charge of the Lake City factory. The enterprise has been highly successful, the concern manufacturing a high grade of glassware. Ernest J. K. Strandberg was married September 14, 1901, to Ruth L. Carlson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, her parents being natives of Sweden and her father a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church. She was born in Hallsburg, Sweden, February 17, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Strandberg are the parents of two children: Ernest Henry, born February 15, 1903, who is a student in the Lake City high school, and is also a glass cutter; and Ruth Anna, born February 16, 1907, who is a student in the eighth grade of the Lake City school. Mr. Strandberg is a citizen of the United



States and a Republican in his political affiliations. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church in Lake City.

**Daniel C. Slauson**, a respected citizen of Glasgow Township, who is at present operating the Thomas Huddleston farm, besides occasionally active in other industrial pursuits, was born at Nappanee, Ind., November 25, 1890, son of Albert and Elizabeth (Hughs) Slauson. On his father's side he is Pennsylvania Dutch, his mother's family being Irish. In his boyhood he attended the common school at Nappanee, and at the age of 14 had to go out into the world for himself. In the summer of 1908 he came to Dumfries, Wabasha County, Minn., being then a young man of 18, and soon after his arrival here he took a business course at the Southern Minnesota Normal College at Austin, Minn. On entering the ranks of industry he learned the carpenter's and cement worker's trades, and having also picked up a knowledge of farming, has worked more or less at all three occupations. As a farm hand he worked six years in Glasgow Township, and is now operating the farm of 120 acres belonging to his father-in-law, Thomas Huddleston. Mr. Slauson was married October 14, 1914, to Edna L., daughter of Thomas and Sarah (McIllreavie) Huddleston. Her father, who is still living in Dumfries, is an old pioneer of Wabasha County, and a veteran of the Civil War, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Slauson have one child, Wilbur Thomas, who was born August 14, 1915. Mrs. Huddleston, Sr., being now deceased, Mrs. Slauson presides as housekeeper for her father and her own family. Mr. Slauson is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, at Wabasha. He attends the Presbyterian church, of which his wife is a member, and politically is a Republican. Enterprising and industrious, he has made financial progress and is esteemed by his fellow citizens, his wife also being socially popular.

**George W. Mack**, early settler of Olmsted County, and veteran of the Civil War, was born in Connecticut in 1839, son of Orilana Mack, a veteran of the war of 1812, grandson of John Mack, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, and descended from John Mack and Dr. David Fuller, who came over in the Mayflower in 1620. The subject of this sketch was reared on his father's farm near Norwich, Conn., and came to Minnesota in 1859, locating in Olmsted County. On October 12, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. After that regiment was captured by General Forrest and paroled, it did valiant service against the Indians on our western frontier. After receiving his honorable discharge September 2, 1865, Mr. Mack returned to his Olmsted County farm, and there remained until 1871. He then removed to Swift County, this state, where he died May 29, 1872. He was a Republican in politics, and his fraternal associations were with the Odd Fellows of Rochester. George W. Mack was married January 10, 1870, to Margaret E. Utter, born in New York state, daughter of Alex M. and Alida M. (Putnam) Utter. This union resulted in one son, Will G. Mack, editor of the Plainview News. Mrs. Mack died September 22, 1887.

**Alex M. Utter**, educator, farmer and Civil War veteran, was born in Washington County, N. Y., and came to Wisconsin in 1857, and to Minnesota in 1861, locating in Elgin Township. He was a man of good education and broad reading, and became an early teacher. From this county he moved to Swift County, this state, where, after teaching a while, he became county superintendent, a position he retained for some 17 years. He was a man of highest ideals as to conduct and education, and the educational system of Swift County still bears the impress of his influence, personality and untiring work. In the nineties he returned to Wabasha County and here spent his declining years at Plainview, where he died in September, 1896. He was a veteran of the Civil War, having served in Company G, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was also an early member of the Masonic order. Mr. Utter married Alida M. Putman, a native of Montgomery County, N. Y. She died in June, 1906.



**Joseph W. Marshall**, for many years a well known farmer and stock dealer of Plainview, attained prosperity by his own efforts, stood well in the community, and he and his good wife gave the best of rearing and education to the largest family in Wabasha County. He was born in Crawford County, Penn., October 5, 1831, son of I. P. and Isabel (Wilson) Marshall, descended on the paternal side from an old Vermont family, and on the maternal side from good old Pennsylvania stock. He was reared to farm pursuits at home and in 1857 came to Wabasha County with F. L. Meachum, and located on a farm in section 3, Elgin Township. Later he disposed of this land and purchased 240 acres adjoining. He gradually developed into the dairying and stock raising business and in time became a stock dealer, breeding, buying, feeding and shipping. For some years he was in partnership with Mr. Meachum, with whom he came to the county. He was well regarded in the community, was a charter member of Plainview Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., and in politics was a Democrat. Mr. Marshall was married April 6, 1857, to Elizabeth Cram, daughter of Humphrey Cram, of Pennsylvania. This union has been blessed with 16 children: Cloe A., Murray A., Otis H., Abel A., Alice I., Ever E., Elmer, Olney, Hattie, Grace, Maude, Mary, Layton, Arthur, Charles and Flossie. Of this splendid family all are living except Murray A.

**Will G. Mack**, editor of the Plainview News, is a splendid example of the modern small city newspaper man. An adept in thoroughly modern journalism, and an expert in up-to-date business methods, he produces a newsy, influential paper, and maintains a printing office that is a model of business efficiency. A native of this region, he is thoroughly conversant with the needs of the community, and the characteristics of its citizens, which gives to his paper a neighborly tone not often found in such a sheet. The news he records is that of the people with whom he has spent the greater part of his life, the successes he heralds are those of people with whom he has been associated from youth, the deaths and misfortunes he transcribes are those of friends who have been near to him since boyhood, and his paper is thus a family journal in a much deeper sense than a newspaper usually attains. While conservative in judgment, Mr. Mack is the friend of every move that has for its object the betterment of the community, and his personal work and the influence of his paper has been an important factor in many of the improvements that have enhanced the value of property, and made the vicinity a more desirable place in which to live. Will G. Mack was born in Quincy Township, Olmsted County, Minn., February 17, 1871, son of George W. and Margaret E. (Utter) Mack. He lost his father when but a little over one year old. At the age of 12 he started his career by securing work in a hotel, where he worked for his board and clothes while attending school. For a time thereafter he worked as a cattle ranchman. In 1888 he entered the field of journalism and printing in the employ of Toland & McCune of Benson. He came to Plainview in 1892 and entered the employ of the Plainview News. In 1899 he and W. J. Walton started the Plainview Record, issuing the first number September 23, 1899. In 1902 Mr. Mack bought out his partner and became the sole owner. In 1903, after the Plainview News had been burned out, the two papers were consolidated and Mr. Mack became the sole owner and proprietor. In 1912 he erected the present slightly and convenient office and printing plant. Mr. Mack is prominent in Masonry, being a member of Illustrious Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., Plainview; Winona Consistory, No. 4, S. R. M., and Osmand Temple, A. A. O., N. M. S. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen, the Independent Order of Foresters and Odd Fellows. In politics he is a staunch Republican. On June 28, 1893, Mr. Mack married Maude E. Marshall, daughter of Joseph W. and Elizabeth (Cram) Marshall, and this union has been blessed with three children: Glenn Ira, born October 14, 1894; Robert Joe, born September 25, 1896, and Margaret Elizabeth, born January 8, 1901. Robert J. Mack enlisted in the navy April 27, 1917, and was sent to the Great Lakes Naval Training



Station. He was transferred to the S. S. Charleston, doing convoy duty, then transport duty. In July, 1919, he re-enlisted for two years and is now serving on the Pacific coast as a first class seaman and gunner's mate. Glenn Mack went into service September 3, 1919, and remained at Camp Grant until being discharged November 30, 1919.

**John Robert Foley**, county attorney for Wabasha County, and a man who has established a high record as a useful and patriotic citizen, was born at Barry, Traverse County, Minn., November 1, 1890, son of Daniel and Ellen (Dunn) Foley. He belongs to that sturdy Hibernian race which has taken so prominent a part in the development and progress of the United States and the British colonies along professional, business and industrial lines, and which has always maintained its faith and hope for the future in spite of oppression and unjust restriction upon its natural ambitions. The father, Daniel Foley, who was born in Ireland about 1850, emigrated to the United States at the age of 29 years, leaving his native land April 29, 1879, landing at New York, and reaching St. Paul, Minn., May 12. There he found employment in the Great Northern Railway shops, and several years later, on April 1, 1883, was married to Ellen Dunn, who was born in Ireland about 1858, and had come to this country. While in the employ of the railroad Mr. Foley assisted in building the Milwaukee Short Line railway between St. Paul and Minneapolis. In 1883 he moved to Traverse County, Minn., and homesteaded 160 acres of unbroken prairie land three miles north of the village of Barry, which tract he subsequently developed, erecting good buildings, raising chiefly grain, and becoming one of the most successful farmers in that country. By 1908 he had accumulated 800 acres, all under good cultivation. On his retirement in that year he took up his residence in Graceville, where he is still living. His wife, Ellen, died on the home farm near Barry, October 25, 1893, and on April 7, 1896, he married for his second wife Mary Wall of De Graff, Minn. The family are Catholic in religious faith, and Mr. Foley is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. All his children were by his first wife, and were as follows: Thomas and Michael (twins), born February 1, 1884, of whom Thomas is now a resident of Graceville and Michael of Minneapolis; Patrick, born September 23, 1885, who is unmarried and lives at Billings, Mont.; Daniel, born August 1, 1887, who died August 18, 1889; John R., the direct subject of this sketch, born November 1, 1890; and Agnes, born August 18, 1892, who is a teacher in the Morris (Minn.) public schools. John R. Foley, after attending the country schools and the common school in Barry, Minn., up to the age of 12 years, entered St. Thomas Military College at St. Paul, Minn., where he received an academic and military training, remaining there six and a half years, and being graduated June 11, 1909. At the time of his graduation he held the rank of lieutenant-adjutant. In the fall of 1909 he entered the law department of Minnesota University, where he was graduated in the spring of 1912, and on June 14 the same year he was admitted to the bar of the state. He at once entered the law office of Mathias Baldwin and Joseph Murphy in Minneapolis, and was with them until March 1, 1913, after which he was associated for over a year with Thomas C. Daggett of St. Paul. On May 13, 1914, Mr. Foley came to Wabasha, where on the following day he opened an office. Here he has since remained and has built up an extensive practice, being now one of the leading attorneys in the county. In May, 1916, he was appointed city attorney of Wabasha, and held that office until January 7, 1919. In May, 1918, he became a candidate for the office of county attorney, to which he was subsequently elected, entering upon its duties January 7, 1919. His record in this office is one of earnest work and honorable achievement, and, among other things, has resulted in the breaking up of a formidable gang of automobile thieves operating between Chicago and the Twin Cities, the glory of which Mr. Foley shares with Sheriff Ed. Fitzgerald. Confronted with the ring of clever manipulators, who managed for a long time to cover up their









WILLIAM H. ANDING AND FAMILY



tracks, and hampered at times by numerous obstacles that seemed at times well nigh insuperable, County Attorney Foley and Sheriff Fitzgerald accomplished that which was said could never be done and precipitated the collapse at Chicago of the notorious auto ring which kept the authorities of many states on the jump for years. With grim determination and fearless aggressiveness these two officials tackled the big job, undaunted by repeated failures, until they finally succeeded and won the admiration, not only of the people of Wabasha County, but of the officials of other places who assisted them in the difficult task. As a result, three men are now serving sentences in this state and nine other persons, including one woman, have recently been indicted in Chicago. A thoroughly patriotic American, Mr. Foley took an active and effective part in home war work. He served as county publicity chairman of all Liberty Loan drives, and local member of all Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamp drives; also as county chairman of the Christmas Red Cross drive of 1917; as county chairman of the 1918 Red Cross drive; legal advisor to the county draft board, and as one of the "four-minute men," making a great many war addresses throughout the state. His fraternal society affiliations are with the Ancient Order of Hibernians of Kellogg, Minn.; the Knights of Columbus, of Wabasha, in which order he has served as grand knight, two terms as district deputy, and as delegate in 1916 to the supreme council at Davenport, Iowa, and delegate in 1918 to the supreme council at New York City. On June 23, 1915, Mr. Foley was united in marriage with Ellen M. Brennan of Centralia, Penna. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Ellen Mary, born April 11, 1916; John R., born October 16, 1917; Robert Langdon, born February 17, 1919; and Catherine Langdon, born April 15, 1920. The family are members of St. Felix parish of the Catholic church in Wabasha.

**William H. Anding**, an enterprising and successful farmer of Gillford Township, a member of a pioneer family, was born in this township, in section 13, August 14, 1875, son of William and Magdalena (Kirchner) Anding. He was educated in District School No. 19, which he attended up to the age of 19 years, and was reared on the home farm, assisting his father until the fall of 1904. He now owns 160 acres in section 13, including 80 acres of the original homestead founded by his grandfather in 1865. The land is all improved, and there is a good stucco residence of two stories and 11 rooms, which was erected in 1915. His barn measures 36 by 60 by 18 feet, with a 10-foot full stone basement for stock, and among the other buildings are a granary 30 by 40 by 10, a shed for the threshing machine 16 by 26 by 10, a tool shed 30 by 44 by 8, a poultry house and hog house combined 16 by 34 by 8, a barn for young stock 16 by 24 by 8, and a garage 12 by 18 by 8, all substantial structures of modern type. Mr. Anding has also a good equipment, which includes a Case tractor and a Case thresher, and his farm is one of the best in the township. He is a successful breeder of pure bred Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs, and is recognized as a hard worker and good citizen. He took an active and leading part in war work, putting his division over in every drive. In politics he is a Republican, and is serving as treasurer of school district No. 19, an office which has come down in the family from his grandfather. Mr. Anding was married November 10, 1904, to Anna Holts, who was born in Belvidere, Goodhue County, Minn., December 13, 1882, daughter of David and Anna Holts, now residents of Gillford Township. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anding: Allen C., July 31, 1905; William C., April 7, 1907; and Irene L., April 7, 1910. Mr. Anding and his family are affiliated religiously with the Jacksonville congregation of the Evangelical church.

**Chauncey S. Fisk**, one of the sturdy farmers who helped to build up the agricultural resources of Plainview Township, of which for many years he was a prominent citizen, was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., March 27, 1843. On August 15, 1862, he entered the army, and served with Company H, 143rd Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry, until July 20, 1865, when he received



an honorable discharge at Alexandria, Va. He attained the rank of sergeant and was detailed for special duty as orderly in General Slocum's escort. After the close of the war he came west, but returned to claim as his bride Sarah E. Finch, of Wawarsing, Ulster County, N. Y. They were married March 27, 1867, and came west to Plainview, Minn. For eight or ten years they resided with his uncle, at the end of which time Chauncey S. Fisk began his independent career, buying a farm of 160 acres in section 8, Plainview Township. Subsequently he increased the area of his farm to 214 acres, and effected extensive improvements, which made it one of the best farms in the township. There he resided until his death on February 16, 1907, widely known and respected for his character and achievements. His wife died April 23, 1913. Their children were as follows: Minnie C., born January 16, 1869, now deceased; Blake C., born May 22, 1873, who resides in Plainview, Minn.; John T., born July 4, 1876, now a resident of Kellogg, Minn.; Grace, born March 19, 1880, now Mrs. M. M. Grove of Dell Rapids, S. D.; Lana, born August 18, 1882, who died February 22, 1883; William Ira, born August 8, 1884, a resident of Kansas City, Mo.; and Roscoe Roby, born June 11, 1888, now a physician at Flandreau, S. D.

**John T. Fisk** was born July 4, 1876, the third child in a family of seven born to Chauncey S. and Sarah E. (Finch) Fisk. His parents were natives of New York state and pioneer settlers of Greenwood Prairie, where they reared their family in their home one-fourth of a mile north of Plainview, now owned and occupied by their eldest son, B. C. Fisk and family. It was here that John T. Fisk grew to manhood, receiving his education in the Plainview high school and assisting his father with the farm work. At the age of 22 he took charge of the I. J. Cutler farm in Cook's Valley, which had been recently acquired by his father and brother, B. C. Fisk. On June 18, 1902, Mr. Fisk was married to Mary V. Albertson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Albertson. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and came to Wabasha County in the early sixties, locating in Cook's Valley on land adjoining the Cutler homestead. The Cutlers and Albertsons were related, I. J. Cutler marrying one of the Albertson daughters, a sister of Mrs. J. T. Fisk. Here were born to Mr. and Mrs. Albertson five children: Anna V., now Mrs. J. G. Armand of Duluth, Minn.; Gertrude L., now the widow of G. A. Cooke, and residing at Delpine, Mont.; Robert C., also of that place; Edmund, of Martinsdale, Mont., and Mary V., now Mrs. J. T. Fisk. Mr. Albertson died in 1891 and is survived by his widow. After Mr. Albertson's death, Mrs. Albertson leased the farm to various tenants though continuing to make her home there. In the winter of 1904 she suffered a severe illness from which she never fully recovered. She has since resided in Montana with her second son, Edmund, on his ranch at Martinsdale. In this mountain air Mrs. Albertson, though well advanced in years, still enjoys a fair degree of health. She occasionally travels alone back to the old home, and so this pioneer woman of Wabasha County lives to enjoy and to participate in the pioneer life of a more western country, where she has acquired considerable property, a part of which she homesteaded. In the year 1904 Mr. Fisk purchased the Cutler place from his father and brother. Two years later he sold this farm, consisting of 380 acres, to the present occupant, and purchased the Frank Wells farm of 106 acres in Plainview Township. Here he lived four years and then sold, and bought a home in Plainview. In 1912 he became a stockholder in the First National Bank of Plainview, where he was assistant cashier until 1916. In the summer of 1916, having disposed of his bank stock to George Vermilya, Mr. and Mrs. Fisk took a trip to the western coast. While en route they visited Mrs. Fisk's people in Montana, where they arranged the purchase of Mrs. Fisk's childhood home, the Albertson place. Here they have spent busy happy years of reconstruction. Though there still remains much to testify of the pioneer builder having "builded well," there was at the time Mr. Fisk acquired his wife's old home, much evidence of the neglect that followed in the wake of many tenants during the period of 25 years since Mr.



Albertson's demise. The interior of the house has been partially reconstructed and rearranged, electric lights have been recently installed in the buildings; a modern log house of hollow tiles, and a tile silo with a capacity of 325 tons, are some of the major improvements made by Mr. Fisk.

Here Mr. Fisk is profitably carrying on diversified farming and stock raising, specializing in pure bred Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine. The farm now embraces 422 acres, and gives evidence of the enterprising spirit and good management of its owner, who is a man of influence in the community, where he and Mrs. Fisk enjoy a high social standing.

**John W. Becker**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Watopa Township, was born in the town of Belvidere, Buffalo County, Wis., February 19, 1866, son of Henry and Mary (Moore) Becker. The parents were natives of Germany, the father of Baden, and came to the United States probably about 1860. After their marriage they settled in La Crosse, Wis., where Henry Becker for two years kept a saloon. After that he was engaged in farming in Buffalo County, Wis., until his death in 1872. In 1873 his widow married Charles Fetting and now lives at Bruce, Wis. By her first marriage, with Henry Becker, she had three children: John W., the subject of this sketch; and Frank and George, who reside in Buffalo, Wis. Of her marriage with Mr. Fetting six children were born: Charles, Mary, Kate, Emma, William and Raymond. John W. Becker was reared in Houston County, Minnesota. He remained at home until 16 years old and then began working out on farms, continuing as a farm laborer until he was twenty-two. He then entered the employ of the Mississippi Logging Co., for whom he worked 17 years as paymaster. At the end of that time he began farming for himself, renting a farm for seven years in Wabasha County. In 1914 he bought his present farm of 320 acres in section 34, Watopa Township, and 44 acres in Winona County directly south. Here he is prosperously engaged in general farming and stock raising, giving his particular attention to Durham cattle and Chester-White hogs. He is connected fraternally with the Equitable Fraternal Union and the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously with the German Lutheran church. Mr. Becker assumed the responsibilities of domestic life on September 2, 1891, when he was united in marriage with Bertha Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ignatz Lawrence, her father being a native of Holland and her mother of Pennsylvania. They came to America in 1872, settling in Buffalo City, Wis., where Mr. Lawrence worked at the shoemaker's trade until 1881. After that he followed farming until 1895, and then located in Weaver, Minn., working for one year as a railroad section hand. He died July 26, 1906. In 1913 his widow married William Achenbach and is still residing in Weaver. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence were Bertha, Alvina, Anna, Louis, Charles, Addie, George and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. John W. Becker have been the parents of five children: William J., born March 20, 1893; Alvin L., December 23, 1894; Mildred M., August 29, 1896; Gordon E., August 9, 1902; and Ronald B., December 16, 1911. William J. is now a resident of Minneapolis. Alvin L. resides in Winona, Minn. Mildred M. is the wife of John Angelberg of Winona. The other two children are residing at home.

**Arend Arends**, who since 1915 has been operating on a farm of 160 acres in section 29, Watopa Township, was born in Carroll County, Iowa, October 18, 1878, son of Otto and Joanna Arends. The father went to Iowa from Illinois and was there engaged in farming until his death in 1880. His wife, who was born in Germany, came to this country when six years old. She survived him and is now living in Iowa. They had four children, Amanda, Riender, Arend and Christina. Arend Arends remained on the home farm with his mother after his father's death until 1890. He then began working out on farms in Iowa by the month, and so continued until 1904, after which, until 1906, he rented farms in Mower County, Minn., subsequently buying a farm of 160 acres in that county, on which he erected a barn 40 by 50 feet. He carried



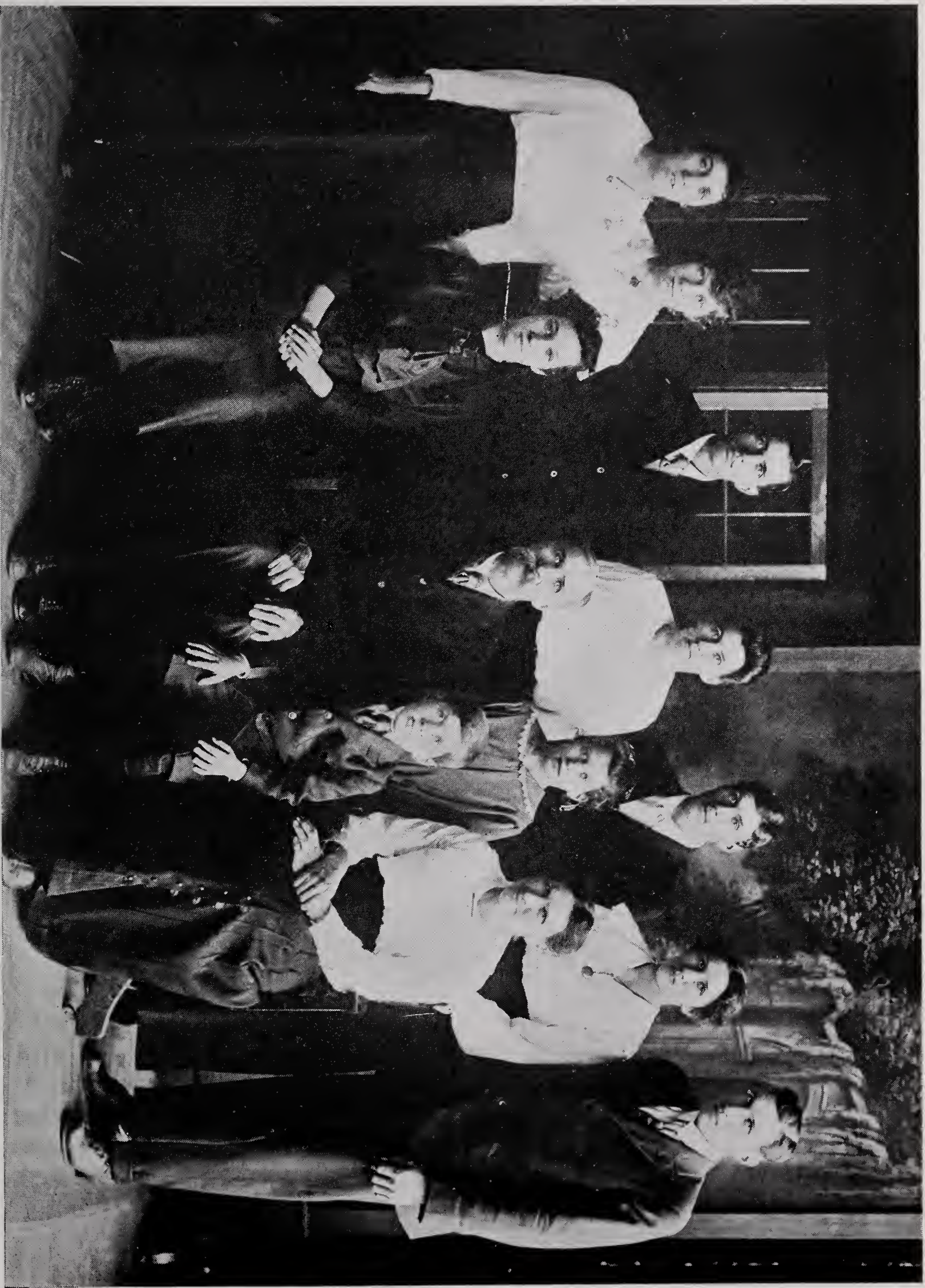
on general farming and stock raising there until 1915, when he disposed of that place and came to Watopa Township, Wabasha County, and purchased his present farm. Here he is doing well as a general farmer and stock raiser, and has become a prominent citizen of the township, being now chairman of the town board and a member of the school board of district No. 81. He is connected religiously with the Presbyterian church, and fraternally with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Arends was married, January 16, 1905, to Mary Barwind, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Barwind. Her father was born in Wisconsin, and spent his active career in farming and stock raising. He is now retired and residing at Stacyville, Iowa. Mrs. Barwind was born in Iowa, August 7, 1860, and has always resided in that state. The children in the Barwind family were Mary, Mina, Emma, Jacob and Frederick, all now living in Iowa except Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Arends have had seven children, who were born as follows: Roland A., February 14, 1906; Marvin G., October 10, 1908; Ella J. A., October 26, 1910; Esther M. A., November 23, 1911; Beulah M., August 22, 1914; Arend J., August 20, 1915; and Reuben R., June 30, 1919. Arend J. died in infancy, October 25, 1918.

**John Donahoe**, who with his brother Michael owns and operates a farm of 160 acres in section 24, Watopa Township, was born in Minneiska Township, Wabasha County, Minn., February 9, 1873, son of John and Lenora (Considine) Donahoe. The parents, who were born in Ireland, came to the United States in 1854, settling at West Newton, Minneiska Township, where John Donahoe, the father was engaged in farming and stock raising until his death, April 17, 1877. He and his wife were the parents of six children: William, Mary, Margaret, Helen, John and Michael, of whom the two last mentioned are the only ones now living. John Donahoe, Jr., was educated in Minneiska Township, in his boyhood attending the district school. He acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture on the home farm, and after his father's decease, worked for his mother until her death in 1905, when he and his brother Michael came into possession of 800 acres of land in Minneiska and Watopa Townships. The greater part of this property they have sold, retaining the farm of 160 acres already mentioned. Neither are married. John Donahoe served 16 years as a member of the school board of district No. 33, Minneiska Township, and he was also a member of the town board for 15 years, serving a part of the time as chairman. He and his brother are well known throughout this part of Wabasha County, and stand high in public regard. They are members of the Catholic church, and the subject of this sketch also belongs to the Catholic Foresters and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Michael Donahoe was born on section 6, Minneiska Township, August 9, 1866, son of John and Lenora (Considine) Donahoe. He was reared on the home farm, and attended school in his district and also at Wabasha. He helped carry on the farm with his parents, and since the death of the mother in 1905, he and his brother John have kept house for themselves. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, being a member of the Weaver Camp.

**Ernest Klennert**, proprietor of a good farm in section 26, Gillford Township, was born in Branda, Germany, April 19, 1857, son of Frank and Elizabeth Klennert. The parents spent their lives in their native land, never coming to this country. Ernest, who was one of a family of four children, had a common school education in Germany, where he grew to manhood. There he found himself unable to make any financial progress, and in 1884 came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, arriving here with little money. For three years he did hard farm work, grubbing many acres of land. By 1887 he had begun to make some progress and resolved to make a start for himself. He began independent farming in Oakwood Township, remained there a year, and then rented a farm for a year in West Albany. After that he farmed for seven years in Gillford Township as a renter. In the fall of 1896 he bought 160 acres in section 26, Gillford Township, to which he subsequently added 80 acres, making the farm





ERNEST KLENNERT AND FAMILY







of 240 acres which he now occupies. On this farm he built a good frame house, a barn, and other necessary buildings, and was doing a good business as a general farmer, raising grade cattle, hogs and sheep. Up to the fall of 1916 he was strong and active, but at that time was seized with paralysis, from which he has not yet recovered. After the attack he removed to Lake City, where he lived until the fall of 1919, when he returned to his farm, which is now operated by Bert Leonard. Mr. Klennert married Sofe Ruther, daughter of Frank and Johanna Ruther of West Albany Township. He and his wife have had ten children: Frank Carl, born September 12, 1886; Mary Elizabeth, June 9, 1888; Ernest, Jr., December 19, 1889; Margaret, March 31, 1892; Anton, September 6, 1894; Helen, January 22, 1896; Martha, July 27, 1899; Catherine, August 28, 1903; Sophia, November 18, 1906; and Albert, June 5, 1909. Frank Carl is a farmer in Gillford Township; Mary Elizabeth is now Mrs. Herman Dahling of Goodhue County; Ernest is married and living at Millville; Margaret is the wife of William Laqua of Gillford Township; Anton, also married, is a farmer in South Troy, Gillford Township, Wabasha County; Martha is the wife of Rudy Johnson, a farmer at Augusta, Wis., and the other children are residing on the home farm. Mr. Klennert and his family are members of the Catholic church; politically he is a Democrat.

**Paul Puetz**, who ranks among the energetic and prosperous farmers of Watopa Township, was born in this township, August 8, 1871, son of Hubert and Mary (Henkels) Puetz. The father was born in Luxemburg and the mother in Germany. They came to America in the early fifties, settling in Iowa. From that state they came in 1864 to Wabasha County, Minnesota, buying government land, on which they engaged in mixed farming until Hubert Puetz's death on July 6, 1874. His wife is still living, being a resident of Minneapolis. She is a member of the Catholic church, as was also her husband. They had seven children, Maggie, Kate, Mary, Paul, Lizzie, Joseph and Matthias, the two last mentioned being now deceased. Paul Puetz was too young at his father's death to long remember him. As he grew older he worked on the farm for his mother, his education being acquired in the district school. In 1893 he rented the home farm and operated it on his own account for four years. In 1897 he bought his present farm of 240 acres in sections 18 and 19, Watopa Township, on which he has since erected most of the buildings, besides making general repairs and bringing the farm into good condition. He has served 25 years as a member of district school board No. 81, and is fraternally affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America and the Knights of Columbus. He is also a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Puetz was united in marriage, November 22, 1898, with Margaret Lehnertz, daughter of Peter and Mary (Nepper) Lehnertz, her parents being natives of Luxemburg who, on coming to this country, settled first in Winona County, Minnesota, whence they later removed to Wabasha County and here for a number of years were engaged in agriculture. They are now retired and reside at St. Charles, Winona County. Mr. Lehnertz, born August 24, 1847, is now 73 years old. Mrs. Lehnertz, born November 25, 1855, is 65 years old. Their children, of whom they had 14, were Josephine, Henry, Margaret, Rosa, Celia, Louie, Julia, Clara, Louie, Otto, Lora, Lucy, Lillian and Herbert. Of these children Celia, Louie (first) and Clara are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Puetz are the parents of ten children, who were born as follows: Joseph P., May 22, 1900; Paul P., January 7, 1903; Catherine M., July 9, 1904; Theresa M., March 29, 1906; Mollan J., March 17, 1908; Francis C., March 1, 1910; Walter J., December 30, 1911; Henry L., June 6, 1913; Loretta R., July 11, 1915; and Raymond N., June 20, 1917.

**Anton Schuth**, of Greenfield Township, a good representative of that sturdy class who have developed the resources of Wabasha County by the cultivation of the soil, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 13, 1862, son of Christian and Margaret (Kesler) Schuth. The father died in Germany, his widow sub-



sequently coming to the United States. Anton acquired a part of his education in his native land and subsequently attended school in Wabasha County, Minnesota, having come here in 1878 and become a resident of Wabasha County. For a number of years thereafter he worked in Greenfield County and Glasgow Township, and by the exercise of economy saved some money. In 1883 he bought 160 acres of land on section 9, Greenfield, which tract he has since developed into a good farm, having erected all the buildings and put up a full line of fencing. He is profitably engaged in general farming, including the raising of stock, and is recognized as one of the township's prosperous citizens. He has served 15 years on the school board of district No. 5, and was for six years a supervisor on the Greenfield town board. He is a member of the Catholic church and of St. Joseph's Society. Mr. Schuth was married May 29, 1888, to Caroline Evers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Evers, her parents being natives of Germany. Twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schuth, namely: Henry, May 1, 1889; Mary, May 5, 1891; Augusta, November 2, 1893; Anna, November 20, 1895; Regina, February 23, 1899; Christina and Joseph (twins), March 9, 1901; Leo, January 10, 1904; Caroline, February 14, 1905; Lucy, March 21, 1907; Matthew, April 3, 1910, and Agnes, February 23, 1915.

**Anton Wampach**, an enterprising and well-to-do farmer of Greenfield Township, was born in the Duchy of Luxemburg, March 9, 1872, son of Nicholas and Eva (Schleimer) Wampach. The parents were lifelong residents of Germany, which was their native land. Anton Wampach was there educated, and remained until 21 years old, when he came to Minnesota, and settled in Winona County, where he resided two years. He then came to Watopa Township, Wabasha County, and engaged in farming, buying 80 acres of land in sections 17 and 18. The farm being run down, he erected a new set of buildings and was engaged in raising crops and stock on that place for twelve years. In 1912 he bought 310 acres in sections 15 and 16, Greenfield Township, where he is now residing, and this place, too, he has improved by the erection of a house, barn and other buildings, the house being of modern design, and supplied with electric light and other conveniences. Mr. Wampach is engaged in mixed farming, including truck raising, and keeps high grade cattle and hogs. He has made good financial progress and is one of the substantial citizens of his township. He is a Catholic in religion, and is a member of several fraternal societies, including the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Samaritans. On February 14, 1899, Mr. Wampach was united in marriage with Elizabeth Schouweiler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schouweiler of Highland Township, her parents being pioneers of Wabasha County who had come from Germany in the early fifties, and who finally died in this county, Mr. Schouweiler on August 13, 1908, and Mrs. Schouweiler May 2, 1910. They were members of the Catholic church. Their family was a large one, consisting of 14 children: Ferdinand, Katherine, John, John H., Michael, Margaret, Jennie, Anna, Frank, Peter, Elizabeth, Garret, Andrew and Nicholas. Of these children, Ferdinand, John (the first so named), and Nicholas are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wampach have been the parents of nine children, born as follows: Earl W., April 30, 1900, who died April 4, 1918; Eva M., born March 30, 1902; Elsie M., born August 13, 1903; Violet T., born January 21, 1905; Levinia, M., born July 18, 1906; Pearl, born April 10, 1909; Mary, born February 14, 1912, who died in infancy; Corabell R., born August 30, 1913, and Rosetta M., born September 28, 1917.

**Theodore Kennebeck**, owner of a good farm property of 165 acres in section 3, Glasgow Township, which he is successfully operating, was born in Buffalo County, Wisconsin, June 15, 1867, son of Bernard and Anna (Oening) Kennebeck. The parents were both natives of Germany, the father born in 1825. The latter was twice married, Anna Oening being his first wife. She died when her son Theodore was a babe, and Bernard Kennebeck subsequently remarried. When Theodore was three years old he came with his father and step-mother









CHARLES F. ANDING AND FAMILY.



to Wabasha County, Minnesota, the family settling in Glasgow Township, where the father bought 160 acres of wild land and began farming. There Theodore grew to manhood, having but limited educational opportunities, as he attended district school very little. After remaining with his father until reaching the age of 28 years, he started in for himself, buying his present farm, or rather, 120 acres of it, in section 3, Glasgow Township. To this he has since added 40 acres more, together with five acres of timber, making the total area of his land 165 acres. He has a good residence and other buildings, including a stave silo, and his farm is well stocked with Durham and Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. In addition to a full equipment of teams, tools and machinery, he owns a good auto car. As he gives his chief attention to his stock he feeds most of his farm product at home. Mr. Kennebeck was married October 10, 1900, to Josephine Anna, daughter of Anton and Mary Passe of Pepin Township, this county, where she was born April 29, 1881. Of this union seven children have been born: Regina Emeline, August 1, 1902; Arnold Anthony, February 29, 1904; Lawrence Joseph, May 15, 1906; Joseph John, August 26, 1908; Herman Theodore, March 7, 1910; Henry George, February 8, 1913; Jeanette Marie, January 18, 1916, and Lloyd George, July 1, 1918. Mr. Kennebeck is politically aligned with the Republican party. He has served for several years as school treasurer of District 68, and is a man who takes a helpful interest in the general good of the community. A Catholic in religion, he and his family are members of St. Felix parish at Wabasha.

**August Jacoby**, a capable and successful farmer of Glasgow Township, where he has resided for many years, was born in Luxemburg, April 15, 1848, son of Michael and Catherine (Sholtes) Jacoby. The father was a potter by trade, but August was brought up to farming, which occupation he followed in Luxemburg except for one year, when he worked in a flour mill. In 1874 he came to the United States and to Wabasha County, Minnesota, arriving at Read's Landing June 5. His parents followed him, arriving in the county in September, and buying a farm of 103 acres in section 4, Glasgow Township. Here the mother died in May, 1875, after a residence of only eight months. Her loss was deeply felt by her husband and family, the former remaining a widower to the end of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jacoby had five children: Mary, now deceased, who was the wife of Nicholas Engel of Euclid, Polk County; August, subject of this sketch; Anna, who is the widow of a Mr. McCove and resides in Chicago; Michael, deceased, who was a resident of Duluth; and Anna Catherine, who died unmarried. August Jacoby after coming to Wabasha County worked out one season as a farm hand on Pepin Hill. After his parents had arrived in the fall and taken their farm in Glasgow Township, he joined them and operated the farm, on which he has since resided. He has been a hard and successful worker, and has acquired a competency. For three years he was a member of the town board. He was married, February 28, 1883, to Margaret, daughter of Johann Peter and Elizabeth Meyer, natives of Luxemburg, where she was born October 4, 1861. She came to America in March, 1882, with her brother William, who is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Jacoby have had seven children, as follows: William, born November 13, 1883, who died March 11, 1900; John, born November 1, 1884, who died November 1, 1918; Clara E., born January 8, 1888, who became the wife of Matt Marx, and died March 13, 1911; George, born November 2, 1890, now living on the home farm; Frank Joseph and Anna Mary (twins), born December 5, 1898, of whom Anna Mary died in infancy; and Nicholas, born October 22, 1901. Frank J. and Nicholas are now operating the home farm, Mr. Jacoby having given up the harder work on it, though he still performs light tasks. Though he and his wife were reared in the Catholic faith they are now liberal in their religious views, and in politics Mr. Jacoby is independent, not being bound to any party but considering first the character of the respective candidates.

**Charles F. Anding**, proprietor of one of the best farms in Gillford Township, situated in section 23, was born in this township, October 21, 1873, son of



William and Magdalena (Kirchner) Anding. He is a grandson of Moritz Anding, who settled in section 13, Gillford Township, in 1866, and is therefore a member of one of the pioneer families of the county. His literary education was acquired in the school of district No. 19, and he subsequently attended the Minnesota Agricultural College at St. Paul from the fall of 1893 to the spring of 1895. Afterwards, until the fall of 1900, he continued to assist his father on the home farm, and in the year last mentioned started in for himself on his present farm in section 23. This farm contains 160 acres, of which 140 are under cultivation, the soil being very productive. There is a comfortable frame house, and in 1920 Mr. Anding built a modern frame barn, the main part of the building (for cattle) measuring 40 by 80 by 12 feet, with a full tile basement of 8½ feet, and the best steel equipment, to which he added an "L" 24 by 40 by 12 feet, for horses, also equipped in modern style, and with running water in every stall. In the same year he built a tile silo 14 by 47 feet in size. Mr. Anding does diversified farming, growing grain and hay and other products of the soil, and breeding pure blood and high grade Holstein cattle, pure blood Poland-China hogs and White Plymouth Rock poultry. A thoroughly practical man in his line of business, he has made good financial progress and is well to do. He was one of the organizers and builders of the Zumbro Falls Telephone Company, which he served as president for three years and in which he is now a stockholder; is a member of the Zumbro Falls Shipping Association, and has stock in the Farmers Elevator Co. of the same place. He has served nine years as a member of the Gillford Town board, and has been clerk of school district No. 88 since 1902. On December 13, 1905, Mr. Anding was united in marriage with Florence E. Boyce, who was born in Gillford Township, August 18, 1884, daughter of Frederick and Mary (Flannigan) Boyce. Of this union four children have been born: Floyd C., on January 4, 1907; Sylvester F., January 8, 1909; Mildred F., December 25, 1910, and Moritz W., November 20, 1915. Mr. Anding and his family are affiliated religiously with the Jacksonville congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church. In politics he is independent. Frederick and Mary Boyce, the parents of Mrs. Anding, were both born in Wabasha County, Minnesota, and were prosperous farmers here. Mrs. Boyce died in 1903, and in 1911 Mr. Boyce sold his farm in this county and moved to Dodge Center, Dodge County, Minn., where he owns a farm on which he is now residing.

**Robert White**, for many years one of the leading farmers of Watopa Township, but now passed away, was born in Wigtonshire, Scotland, December 4, 1851, son of James and Isabelle (Parker) White. In the spring of 1853, as an infant of 14 months, he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family settling first in Connecticut, then in New York State, and later in Saginaw, Michigan. There Robert White remained until the spring of 1870, when he came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and for some years thereafter was a resident of Plainview. It was not until his marriage in 1879 that he took the farm on which the rest of his life was to be spent, and on which his widow still resides. This farm is located on Hoosier Ridge, in section 35, and at the time Mr. White moved on to it, the only building was a little shack about 12 by 12 feet in size. He at once began the work of improvement which he carried on until death put an end to his activities, and the results he achieved are visible today in one of the finest farms in the township, provided with a neat and commodious residence, spacious barns and outbuildings, a brick silo, and everything necessary for extensive farming operations along scientific lines. A large apple orchard is also one of the features of the place. This comprehensive development of the original tract was accomplished with the aid of his sons, who, as they grew up, became more and more useful. Mr. White was a man of sterling character, honest and industrious, and popular within a wide circle of acquaintance. His death, which occurred April 13, 1917, was an event that caused sorrow throughout the community, the people realizing that a lead-



ing citizen had departed from their midst. For over 26 years he had been clerk of the district school board, had served as chairman of the board of supervisors, and for a number of years as justice of the peace, and for 24 years had been a member of the order of Modern Woodmen of America. In addition to his wife and children, he was survived by his mother, now 91 years old and a resident of Weaver; two sisters, Mrs. Sarah Gow, of Madison, Wis., and Mrs. Mary Young, of Pictou, Ontario, Canada; and two brothers, Frank of Kalispell, Mont., and James of Weaver, Minn. Robert White was married at Alma, Wisconsin, November 17, 1879, to Freda Guettinger, who was born October 16, 1861, daughter of John and Fredericka (Lauderbach) Guettinger. Her father was a native of Switzerland and her mother of Germany. They were married in Buffalo City, Wisconsin, and spent the rest of their lives as farmers in that vicinity, Mr. Guettinger dying at Cochran, Wis., December 23, 1896, and Mrs. Guettinger in May, 1913. Their children were as follows: Louise, who married Gunder Enlagen, and died in 1887, leaving two children, Clarence, now deceased, and Anna, who is living; Freda, widow of Robert White; Bertha, who married James White, of Weaver, Minn., and has three children living; John, of Colton, Wash., who married Mollie Kaiser and has six children; Matilda, who is the wife of Frank Bowman, of Tacoma, Wash., and has three sons; Albert, who married Amelia Hofer, and has three children; Ida, wife of Herbert Thomas, and the mother of five children; and three who died in infancy, making a family of ten in all. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert White, all living, are Harry, Lloyd, Hugh, Guy, Frances, Ora A., and Elsie. Harry, born September 3, 1880, is now engaged in operating the home farm on shares. Lloyd, born October 10, 1882, married Ella Dern, and resides at Butte, Mont. Hugh, born March 29, 1884, married Margaret Steggar, and has two children, Alta and Dolores. Guy, born September 28, 1887, and now a resident of Des Moines, Iowa, married Mrs. Lulu Starr, who has a child by her first husband. Frances, born March 14, 1891, is the wife of Ernest V. Foster. She has two children, Howard, born November 25, 1910, and Doris, born December 25, 1913. Ora A., who was born March 11, 1898, is now Mrs. Len V. Montgomery. She has had one child who died in infancy and one daughter living, Elsie, born February 19, 1900, is residing at home with her mother. The White family is prominent among the leading families in the county, and its members have always stood for progress, culture and social advancement.

**John E. Winters**, who is engaged in agriculture in the town of Watopa, of which he is town clerk, was born in Whitewater Township, Winona County, Minn., February 25, 1881, son of Adam and Christina (Peterson) Winters. The parents came to Minnesota from Indiana and settled in Winona County, where they were engaged in farming until 1895. They then moved to Wabasha County, where they farmed until 1912. In that year they moved to Minneiska village, where Mr. Winters conducted a general store until his death on June 4, 1918, and where his wife, who was born in Sweden, is now living. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their ten children, five are now living, the full list being as follows: Lester, Nellie, Etta, Jennie, May, John, Nora, Jessie, Arthur and Walter. Those deceased are Lester, Nellie, Etta, May and Nora. John E. Winters was educated in the town of Whitewater, Winona County. Until 1903 he worked for his father and then took up telegraphy, which occupation, however, he followed for only one year, at the end of that time going to work at the carpenter's trade, at which he worked two years. After that for seven years he followed the occupation of cream buyer. He then rented the farm on which he now resides, containing 200 acres in sections 21 and 22, Watopa Township, which he has since carried on successfully. He has become a prominent citizen of his township, and in addition to being town clerk, a position which he has held for three years, he is serving as treasurer of school district No. 93. Mr. Winters was married, November 22, 1905, to Matilda Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson. Her



parents were natives of Sweden who came to America in the early fifties, settling on East Indian Creek, in Watopa Township, this county, where they did general farming and stock raising until Mr. Johnson's death March 15, 1887. Mrs. Johnson subsequently married Ole Chelgren, with whom she is now living in the village of Weaver, where they operate a hotel. Mr. and Mrs. John E. Winters are the parents of four children: Clarence A., born January 20, 1907; Harold A., September 7, 1909; Eugene E., March 10, 1912; and an infant born May 13, 1920.

**Charles Riley**, a Minnesota pioneer, who settled in the neighboring county of Winona, and whose descendants are prominent in Wabasha County, was a native of Ireland, in which country he was married to Mary Hussey. About 1849, immediately after his marriage, he came with his wife to the United States, and, settling in New Jersey, was engaged in farming there until the fall of 1855. A few years previous to the latter date, or in 1851, the Sioux Indians had ceded all their lands east of the Sioux river to the United States, and a considerable emigration had begun to Minnesota. Attracted by the prospect of cheap land, Mr. Riley also set out, with his family, and on arriving in the then territory, secured 80 acres of wild land in Gilmore Valley, Winona County. Not being wholly satisfied with the location, he moved about 1857 to Waseca County, where he engaged in farming on a tract of 120 acres. While still residing there, he bought a farm in the town of Hart, Winona County, consisting of 160 acres. He then bought 177 acres, situated three miles west of what is now Winona city, selling 120 acres of his other farm for \$700, and trading the other 40 acres for a yoke of oxen. Thus equipped with funds and other necessities, he bought another farm three miles west of Winona, on the Minnesota City road, for \$4,000, which was a good price for a farm in those days. There Mr. Riley resided with his family for 20 years, at the end of which time he had improved the place to such an extent that about 1889 he sold it to the Laird-Norton Lumber Co. for \$10,000. He then bought another farm, of 272 acres, one mile farther west on the same road, for which he paid \$5,500, and continued his farming enterprises. His career was nearly over, however, as several years later, on August 23, 1892, he died from blood poison, resulting from the extraction of a tooth. His family subsequently sold the farm for \$11,000. A part of this increased value may be attributed perhaps to the general rise in land values, but still more to the improvements effected by Mr. Riley, who throughout his career showed himself a man of energy and foresight, a good provider for his family, and equipped with all the qualities which go to make the successful man, in whatever community he may be found. Doubtless he would have succeeded anywhere, but the new territory of Minnesota gave him superior opportunities to show his ability. His son, John T. Riley, is now one of the leading farmers in Watopa Township, Wabasha County.

**John Thomas Riley**, proprietor of an excellent farm of 400 acres in section 36, Watopa Township, was born at Iosco, Waseca County, Minnesota, May 10, 1858, son of Charles and Mary (Hussey) Riley. His boyhood and youth were spent on the various farms purchased and operated in succession by his father, whom he assisted in the work of improvement. In time he became his father's right-hand man, and was given the management of the farm on the Minnesota City road, three miles west of Winona, which was sold in 1889 to the Laird-Norton Company; and he not only conducted this farm, but also several others in the vicinity, amounting altogether to about 1,000 acres. Previous to this, however, he had resided for a while in Winona, during which time he was engaged in bridge carpenter work for the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. After resuming his residence on the family homestead he made farming his sole business and showed the same capacity which had made his father a successful man in that line of industry. About 1898 Mr. Riley bought an improved farm of 145 acres at Beaver, in Whitewater Township, Winona County, the price of which was \$4,000. There he resided for five years, during which time he re-



modeled the house and made other improvements, finally selling the place for \$5,500. He now made a change of base, removing to Wabasha County, and renting the present Ames farm of one-half section from Mr. Hulbert. His agreement was for the period of five years, and it was during that time that he bought his present place, which he rented to Lewis Martin, finally taking possession himself. It had some improvements, to which, however, he has greatly added, having remodeled the house, erected a fine barn, 30 by 75 feet, and concrete floor, put up a silo, and constructed a well and cistern. The erection of the barn and the remodeling of the house, to which he added a kitchen, took 25,000 feet of lumber, all of which he cut from timber on his farm. Of the total acreage of his farm, about 170 acres are under the plow, 90 acres of which lie in the valley and 80 on the ridge. A part of his land is in pasture. He keeps on an average of 45 Durham cattle, 12 to 14 of which are milch cows, the cream from which he sells to the creamery. He has also a good herd of Duroc-Jersey hogs, and some Norman horses, and is carrying on a profitable business as a general farmer. Formerly Mr. Riley was a director and stockholder in the bank at Weaver, but some time ago sold out his interests to the present proprietor of that concern. On November 23, 1880, John Thomas Riley was united in marriage with Helen Costello, who was born in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, in 1862, daughter of John and Mary (O'Rourke) Costello, her father being a railroad man. Of this union ten children have been born, namely: Charles B., John Henry, Helen, Genevieve, an unnamed daughter who died in infancy, Florence, Mary, William, Margaret Anna, and Gertrude Lucille. Charles B., born January 19, 1882, is residing at home. John Henry, born August 9, 1884, and now a resident of St. Paul, Minn., married Stella Schultz, of Oregon. He has two children, John and Marguerite. Helen, born October 18, 1886, is living on the home farm. Genevieve, who was born July 7, 1888, died November 19, 1907. Mary, born April 18, 1892, married Henry St. Jacque, who died of influenza and pneumonia. She has two children, Gertrude Margaret and John Henry. William, born November 11, 1898, enlisted in the United States army on May 10, 1917, and sailed for France December 17, 1917. He took part in the desperate fighting at St. Mihiel and at the Meuse-Argonne, but was fortunate in escaping death or wounds, and after his return to the United States was honorably discharged at Camp Dodge, Iowa, May 20, 1919. Margaret Anna, born September 26, 1900, and Gertrude Lucille, born June 23, 1904, as the youngest members of the family, are still living with their parents. Carl Persons, son of a sister of Mrs. Riley, was also a soldier in France, and at the battle of Chateau-Thierry received a severe wound in his left foot, from which he is badly crippled. The Riley family are members of the Catholic church at Minneiska, and Mr. Riley also belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Modern Woodmen of America. A prominent citizen of his township, he is widely known and everywhere respected.

**Samuel E. Foster**, one of the leading farmers of Watopa Township, was born in the town of Menter, Lake County, Ohio, December 28, 1851, son of William Henry and Emeline C. (Griffith) Foster. His great grandparents on the paternal side were natives of Wales; another strain of Welsh blood being derived through the Griffith family, and his maternal grandmother was a Skinner. His mother's family settled in Youngstown, Ohio, where there is a considerable Welsh colony, though Emeline C. Griffith was born in New York State, as was also William H. Foster, her husband. The latter went to Ohio to learn the moulder's trade, and remained in that state from the early forties until 1863. After working for some time as a moulder, he conducted a spoke and hub factory for some time in Lake County, Ohio. In 1856 he came with his family to Olmsted County, Minnesota, where he took a tract of wild land and developed it into a farm. Subsequently he sold that farm and took another in Clark County, Wisconsin, where he remained for five or six years. Again he sold, going to Barron County, Wisconsin, where he farmed until his death in March,



1893. He was about 70 years old, having been born in 1823. His wife, who was born in 1828, died in 1917, at the age of 89 years. They were the parents of six sons and three daughters, of which children five are now living. The record in brief is as follows: Charles, who married Charlotte Pierce, died at the age of 49 years; Melissa, who married Daniel Hall of Fillmore County, Minn., died about nine years ago at the age of 63; Alice died in infancy; Samuel E., subject of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Laura is the wife of Herman Stegeman of Seattle, Wash.; Emery lives in Plainview, Minn.; Amos in Colby, Clark County, Wis.; John died unmarried, and Julius, who married Sarah Thornton, is now a resident of Colfax, Wash. Samuel E. Foster acquired his education in a district school in Olmsted County. Until arriving at the age of 14 years he assisted his father on the home farm, and then began working out, sending his money home. He followed various kinds of farming, including threshing, working by the month and day, until 1884, when he started in for himself, buying the first "eighty" of his present place of 400 acres, most of which lies in section 33, Watopa Township. He has erected all the buildings and fenced the entire farm, when he first took possession there being only a log cabin on the place. The original part of his present house was built 27 years ago, and Mr. Foster has since put up three additions to it, transforming it into a long and commodious structure. The front part, facing the road, is constructed of cement blocks, the other parts of the building being frame. His first barn was a straw shed, which has long since been replaced with a large and substantial structure. As a general farmer and stock raiser Mr. Foster established a good record and is now in comfortable circumstances. He increased the area of his farm to 480 acres, and on his retirement from active work in 1907, rented it to his son Charles, who operated the farm until 1915, when Mr. Foster rented it to his son-in-law, Nobel Evans, who is still conducting it, Mr. Foster and his wife retaining their residence on the place. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Weaver and in the Greenwood Prairie Telephone Co. Formerly for two years he served on the school board of district No. 82. Fraternally he belongs to the M. W. A. and he and his family are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Foster was married, January 9, 1883, to Alice Arvilla Murray, who was born in Cook's Valley, near Kellogg, Minn., daughter of John and Marie Elizabeth (Klausen) Murray, her parents being early settlers in that locality. Her father was a native of Scotland, after coming to this country, settled first in New York, subsequently moving to Wisconsin and helping to build the first sawmill at Eau Claire. Later he came to Lake City, Wabasha County, Minn. His wife came to this county in 1855, and they were married, December 12, 1858, after a short residence in Wabasha making their home in Lake City. They had three children, of whom two grew to manhood: Ovid, of Plainview, and Alice A., wife of Samuel E. Foster. She was born December 12, 1860, and when six months old accompanied her parents to a farm next to the present Foster property. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have had four children, all of whom are now living, as follows: Charles, born July 13, 1885, now a farmer, who married Lena Walberger of Wabasha, and has three children, Elmer, Robert and an infant as yet unnamed; Ernest Verne, born April 13, 1887, who married Frances White, and has two children, Howard and Doris; Ethel Elizabeth, born October 15, 1893, who married Noble Evans, now living on the Foster farm, and has one child, Wayne Foster; and Inez Mabel, born March 20, 1889, who is the wife of Frank Fritzloff, a farmer residing near Plainview.

Oliver P. Atkinson, now deceased, was for many years a highly respected farmer and citizen of Gillford Township. He was born on Green Prairie, Olmsted County, Minnesota, February 13, 1861, son of John and Sarah Atkinson. The parents were natives of England who came to Minnesota in the latter fifties, settling on the farm in Olmsted County on which their son Oliver was born. In 1862 they came to Gillford Township, Wabasha County, buying a





MR. AND MRS. OLIVER P. ATKINSON







farm of 160 acres on section 33, the land being all wild. This land they developed into a farm, the frame house which they erected being now occupied by their grandson, Allen J. Atkinson. Oliver P. Atkinson grew to manhood on this farm and was educated in the district school. In time the home property came into his possession and he continued his residence on it, engaged in general farming, until his death on June 1, 1903, an event deeply regretted, as he was a man of wide acquaintance and popular throughout the township and the vicinity. He and his wife were members of the Congregational church at Zumbro Falls, and for a number of years he served on the school board of his district. Mr. Atkinson was married, March 9, 1881, to Martha Warren, who was born in Gillford Township, this county, December 15, 1861, daughter of Frank and Margaret Warren. Of this union seven children were born: Leander, July 29, 1883; Colon P., May 10, 1885; Vernon W., July 3, 1887; Allen J., November 14, 1889; Lela, August 25, 1892; Pearl, May 29, 1898, and Forrest, November 29, 1900. Leander and Lela are now deceased; Colon is a farmer in Zumbro Township; Pearl is now Mrs. Harry Devery, her husband being a farmer in Zumbro Township, and Forrest is a farmer in Chester Township. After her husband's death Mrs. Atkinson, with the help of her sons, operated the farm until 1909, when she moved to Zumbro Falls, where she resided until her death July 2, 1920. Since 1909 the farm has been operated by her son, Allen J. Atkinson, who is now one of the active and successful young farmers of Gillford Township. He was married June 19, 1918, to Anna Bluhm, who was born in Zumbro Township May 14, 1900, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Bluhm. Allen J. Atkinson and wife have one child, Earl, born April 6, 1919.

**John W. Tebor**, a well known and respected resident of Watopa Township, where he has been engaged in farming for the past nine years, was born in Belgium, September 18, 1871, son of John and Catherine (Nelles) Tebor. His parents remained in their native land, where the father, John Tebor, died November 11, 1918, after experiencing the terrible hardships incidental to the German invasion, without the satisfaction of seeing its final salvation. His wife, who survived him, is still residing there. They had five children, John W., John B., Nicholas, Barbara and Catherine, the two last mentioned being twins. Catherine is now deceased, and the others, except John W., are now living in Belgium. John W. Tebor came to the United States in 1886, and for some time resided in Chicago, where he worked at manual labor. From there he went to Milwaukee, subsequently visited several places on the Great Lakes, and in 1900 came to Wabasha County. Here he rented 160 acres of land in Highland Township and began farming. In 1911 he bought 240 acres in section 17, Watopa Township, and on that farm followed general agriculture and stock raising for seven years, during which period he served two years as clerk of the school board of district No. 81. In 1918 Mr. Tebor sold that farm and bought that on which he now resides, containing 240 acres in section 7, Watopa, where he has since continued his farming and stock raising activities on a profitable basis. He is a member of the Catholic church, and fraternally belongs to the Good Samaritan Society. Mr. Tebor was united in marriage, January 23, 1902, with Della Tentis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Tentis, her parents being natives of Germany who came to the United States in the early fifties, and settled soon after in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where they spent the rest of their lives, Mr. Tentis dying in 1904 and his wife in 1908. Their children were Sophia, Adam, John, Catherine, Della, Jacob, Susan, Allen, Emil and Frank. Catherine is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Tebor have had five children, all now living and residing at home: Clarence J., Margaret B., Viola C., George R., and Robert F.

**Henry Angelbeck**, now living retired in Plainview after an active agricultural career in Highland Township, was born in Germany, where he grew to manhood. Like other German youths, he was obliged to serve in the army, and took part in the Franco-German war of 1870. In 1872 he came to the United



States, first locating in Cincinnati, where he remained for a year. Then coming to Wabasha County, Minnesota, he bought and settled on 160 acres of land in Glasgow Township. The tract was wild and largely covered with timber, which he cleared off, first building a small log house. In 1897 he moved to Highland Township, buying 175 acres in sections 4 and 9. On this farm in 1897 he built a new frame house of nine rooms; a barn 30 by 68 feet, and a granary 30 by 34, with a lean-to 14 by 34. Here he farmed successfully until 1909, in which year he retired and removed to Plainview. Henry Angelbeck married Louise Evers, who, like himself, was born in Germany. They have had a family of six children, of whom four are now living: Mary, wife of Frank Deming, Jr.; Lizzie, wife of George Passe of Merrifield, Minn.; and Theresa, wife of William Passe of the same place. Those deceased are Henry and Anna. Mr. Angelbeck was formerly supervisor in Glasgow Township. In religion he and his wife are Catholics, and are people well known and highly esteemed.

**John J. Angelbeck**, an active and successful farmer of Highland Township, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., February 12, 1880, son of Henry and Louise (Evers) Angelbeck. He was reared on the home farm and acquired his education in the district school, and he accompanied the family when in 1897 they moved to sections 4 and 9, Highland Township. Up to the age of 27 years he was engaged in assisting his father. Then for two years he operated the home farm under rental, subsequently buying it. Here he has since followed general farming and stock raising, breeding cattle, hogs and sheep, and with the intention of specializing in hogs, Holstein cattle and sheep in the future. An active citizen, he was supervisor of Highland Township two years. He is a Catholic in religion and a member of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Angelbeck was married at Wabasha in 1907 to Caroline Passe, daughter of Herman and Anna (Schut) Passe. Her parents were natives of Germany who came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, two years before the Angelbeck family, settling in Glasgow Township, on a farm. Later they removed to a farm within the city limits of Wabasha, where they are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Angelbeck have eight children, Mary, Margaret, Joseph, Agnes, Albert, Bernadine, Clara and Paul, all residing at home and four attending school.

**Joseph Schurhammer**, now living retired in Kellogg after an active career devoted chiefly to agriculture, was born on a farm in Greenfield Township, Wabasha County, Minn., September 8, 1856, son of Joseph and Mary M. (Trichler) Schurhammer. The parents were born and married in Germany and came to the United States in 1855, settling first at Dubuque, Iowa. Thence in the spring of 1856 they came to Wabasha County, locating on a farm in Greenfield Township, where a few months later the subject of this sketch was born. After following agriculture here for a number of years, both parents died. They had nine children, six of whom are living, namely: George, Joseph, August, Minnie, Christ and Lawrence. Minnie is the wife of Thomas Herschberger of Polk County, Minnesota. John and Andrew are deceased and also one other child who died in infancy. Joseph Schurhammer in his boyhood attended the district school and at an early age began to make himself useful on his parents' farm. There he remained until 1879, by which time he was a good practical farmer. For two years subsequently he worked out. Then in 1881 he bought a farm of 400 acres, together with his brother-in-law and his wife's sisters and brother. It was the home farm of his father-in-law, John Huber, and they operated it together until Joseph Schurhammer, after buying the interests of some of the others in succession, became the sole owner of 300 acres. There he farmed until 1906, when he gave up that occupation and removed to Kellogg. During the first two years he resided here he was engaged in railroad work and other occupations. Then he entered into the saloon business, which he carried on until January 10, 1920, when he retired. Mr. Schurhammer served for several years as supervisor of Greenfield Township and as roadmaster. He is a



member of Teutonia Lodge No. 19, and for nine years has belonged to the Odd Fellows' lodge in Wabasha. In 1879 Mr. Schurhammer was married, in Wabasha, to Sarah Huber, daughter of John and Caroline Huber, who were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Schurhammer had nine children, of whom six are now living, namely: Caroline, wife of Con Quigley, who lives on a farm in Greenfield Township; Joseph, Jr., of Kellogg; Valentine, on the home farm; Mary M., wife of Paul Schmoker of Greenfield Township; Leonard, of Minneiska, and Marie, wife of Frank Spooner, living on a farm in Buffalo County, Wisconsin. Those deceased are Minnie, Andrew and Emil. Emil, who was a steel worker in Chicago, met a tragic death in 1918 by falling nine stories off a building. Mrs. Sarah Schurhammer, the mother, died in Wabasha in March, 1920.

**Henry Schwedes**, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Kuehn Mercantile Company, of Wabasha, Minn., who has been a resident of this city for 38 years, and for the greater part of that time a live factor in its development, was born at Wheeling, W. Va., January 26, 1859, son of John Christopher and Netta (Michel) Schwedes. His parents were of German nationality. The father, John C. Schwedes, was born at Breuna Castle, Hesse, March 14, 1826. At the age of 20 he entered the German army and served in the infantry under Marshall Wrangel, being a man of good physique and fine soldierly bearing. His period of military service in the army of his native land being over, in 1857 he came to the United States, and in the same year he married Netta Michel at Alexandria, Penn., who was, however, like himself, of German origin, having been born October 18, 1828, at Luedersheim, Fuerstenthum, Waldeck, Germany. A few years after Mr. Schwedes' marriage the Civil War broke out, and he enlisted in 1861 in the Second West Virginia regiment, serving under General Rosecranz. At Sheet Mountain he was wounded in the right eye, which he lost, and on account of this disability was discharged. After his return from the war he resided for three years in Cincinnati. In 1865 he came west to Buffalo County, Wisconsin, settling in Alma, where for many years subsequently he followed the occupation of a tailor. Though for some years in poor circumstances, his sterling character as a man and citizen made a favorable impression on the community and he was highly respected. In 1880 he lost his wife Netta, and four years later he married Minnie Louise Neuman of Alma. Mr. Schwedes passed away on February 22, 1918. For years he was an active and useful member of the German Reformed church, and also of the Odd Fellows and G. A. R. lodges at Alma and Fountain City. Henry Schwedes was one of a family of three children, the two others being a daughter Emma, born at Wheeling, W. Va., February 16, 1862, who died at Alma, Wis., in 1868, and a son, Henry (first), who was accidentally killed at Wheeling, W. Va. Henry (the subject of this sketch) was but six years old when the family settled in Alma, and his early education was acquired in the common schools there. At the age of 13 he began working in a sawmill, and was thus occupied for about two years, during which time he turned his earnings over to his parents. At 15 he became clerk in the drug store of Hummer & Ginskey and after that kept some of his money for himself, carefully saving it so that in two years he had sufficient to pay for a course in bookkeeping in the La Crosse Business College, where he completed his studies in 1877. In the following year he entered the employ of the Mississippi River Logging Company on Beef Slough as a log scaler, and was thus occupied for two years, or until 1879, when he took charge of the company's log books, which he kept for three years. On January 5, 1882, Mr. Schwedes was married by the Rev. Mr. Trobec to Mary Magdelene, daughter of Lucas and Clarrie Kuehn, of Wabasha, Minn., and in the same year took up his residence in this city, becoming bookkeeper in the general store of Lucas Kuehn, his father-in-law. Later he became a member of the Kuehn Mercantile Co., of which he is now, as already stated, secretary, treasurer and general manager. His rise in the business world has been



steady, and accomplished by unremitting attention to his multifarious duties, backed by native ability and integrity. Though of a quiet and retiring disposition, he has never been slow to lend a helping hand to any project for the advancement and general welfare of the community in which he resides, and he is recognized by his fellow citizens as a man of power and reliability. He is affiliated religiously with Grace Memorial Episcopal church of Wabasha, of which he had proved a useful member. Mr. Schwedes has had the misfortune to lose his wife, who passed away May 14, 1918, after an illness of a year and a half. She was a woman of a generous and sympathetic nature, devoted to her home and family, and one who diffused an atmosphere of sunshine and happiness wherever she went, being beloved by old and young alike. She left two children: Walter F., born October 18, 1883, and Carl H., born July 9, 1887. Walter F. is now employed as an electrical engineer with the Oliver Mining Co. of Duluth, Minn. Carl H. was graduated from the dental department of the State University in the class of 1920 and is now located in Minneapolis.

**Martin A. Grove**, veteran of the Civil War, prominent public official, substantial business man and successful agriculturist, has been an important factor in the life of Wabasha County for many years. As a Civil War soldier he offered his best to his country's service, and bears to this day the scars of this heroism; as a business man, whether clerk or proprietor, he was accommodating, affable and efficient; as a public official he gave to this county and township the advantages of his wide experience and keen judgment, and as an agriculturist he developed an excellent farm. In addition to this, he and his good wife reared a family of children who have taken a prominent part in the professions, and have been a credit to the county that gave them birth. Now in the prime of life, he looks back over the years well spent, content in the fact that he has been permitted to take so goodly a share in the world's work. Martin Andreas Grove was born in Valdres, Norway, May 9, 1846, the son of Andrew and Ona (Olson) Grove, worthy farmers of that country. Of the large family born to this worthy couple, Julia, the eldest, married and spent her life in the old country, while Knute, Clara, Ole, Nels, Andrew and Martin A. came to this country. All are dead except Andrew, who lives in Fertile, Worth County, Iowa, and Martin A. The family came to America in 1852 and settled in Black Earth, Dane County, Wis. After the death of the mother in 1872 the father took up his home with his son, Martin A., in Wabasha County, Minn., and died in 1872. Martin A. received his education in Wisconsin and was reared to farm pursuits. At the age of 19, in the early spring of 1865, he enlisted in Co. G, 38th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and was sent South. He participated in the skirmishes before Petersburg, Va., and in the taking of Petersburg and Richmond. In the actions incident to the latter, he was shot through the left arm below the elbow, which caused a permanent stiffness of that member. Upon recovering from his wound, he became a clerk in a general store at Black Earth. In 1867 he came to Minnesota, and became a clerk in the store of F. A. Cornwall. Two years later he was married, and the young couple took up their home in Lake City, where Mr. Grove was employed as a clerk by H. F. Williamson. In 1872 he purchased a quarter section in Oakwood Township. There he lived and labored for many years, developing a well-improved place, and carrying on general farming, dairying and stock raising on a successful scale. In 1899 he came to Plainview village, and for a number of years engaged in business, first as a dealer in farm implements, and later as a furniture dealer and undertaker. Afterward he retired, and now devotes his time to looking after his various interests, including considerable real estate holdings in North Dakota. In public life, Mr. Grove's influence has ever been toward the best interests of the community. In addition to filling with credit various local, school and town offices, he served with distinction as county commissioner and during this long period was several times chairman, guiding the affairs of the county with dignity and discretion. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic









JOHN LAQUA AND FAMILY



order and the G. A. R. In the G. A. R. he is one of the five surviving members of the Post at Plainview. He has been an active member in the Methodist Episcopal church, and for many years was Sunday school superintendent at Millville, in addition to serving the church in several official capacities. Mr. Grove was married October 31, 1869, to Mary Christopherson, who was born in Norway, daughter of Christopher and Jennie (Nelson) Christopherson, who came to America in the middle fifties, and lived in Wisconsin and Iowa, before coming to Oakwood Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Grove died December 6, 1916. She was a woman of sterling qualities, a loving wife, and an ideal mother, and her memory is sacredly cherished. Mr. and Mrs. Grove were blessed with eight children: Illey Anders, Carl Joseph, Alfred Joseph, George Nimes, Martin Melvin, Ina Jemema, Arthur Francis and Lilly Irene. Illey Anders married Fannie Bailey of Zumbro, this county, and died March 3, 1915. Carl Joseph married Lulu Bailey, of Zumbro, has one son and is now a dentist at St. Paul. Alfred Joseph is a farmer and business man. George Mines married Kata Parr, and is now a dentist at Owatonna, this state. Martin Melvin married Grace Fisk, of Plainview, this county, and is now a dentist at Dell Rapids, S. D. Ina Jemema is dead. Arthur Francis married Gusta Diana and lives in Dell Rapids, S. D. Lilly Irene married Roby R. Fisk, a physician of Flandreau, S. D. They have two sons.

**John Laqua**, whose death on February 12, 1919, deprived Highland Township of one of its most respected citizens, was born in Prussia, Germany, June 19, 1867, son of Carl and Anna Laqua. His parents spent their lives in their native Germany and are both now deceased. John Laqua came to the United States in September, 1890, landing at New York, and coming directly to Wabasha County, Minn. Locating at Theilman, he worked for a year in the wagon shop of his brother, Frank, at that place. At the end of that time he bought a farm of 120 acres in section 6, Highland Township, one mile from Theilman, and later bought 80 acres more in section 5, making in all 200 acres. Subsequently he sold the tract of 120 acres and moved to a tract of 80 in section 5, where he spent the rest of his life engaged in general farming and stock raising, increasing the size of the farm to 200 acres before his death. Mr. Laqua was married at Wabasha, January 12, 1898, to Emma Sagissor, daughter of Fred and Barbara (Ammon) Sagissor. Her parents and family came to this country in the early sixties, settling first in Illinois. After remaining there until 1875, they came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating in Highland Township, where Mr. Sagissor conducted a blacksmith shop for a while. Later he bought a farm which he operated until 1905, when he moved to Wabasha. There his death occurred in 1907, his wife having passed away two years previously at the time he gave up the farm. They were the parents of six children, all now living, namely: Albert Fred, Hector, Matilda, Lena, Bertha and Emma. Albert Fred resides in Highland Township, and Hector in Wabasha. Matilda is the wife of Gottlieb Burkhardt of Wabasha Township, her sister Lena residing with her. Bertha is the wife of Fred Goetz of Plainview Township. Mr. and Mrs. Laqua have had four children, one of whom, Henry is now deceased. The living are Myrtle, Vera and Arthur, the last mentioned of whom is carrying on the farm work for his mother.

**Peter C. Wood**, a summer resident of Plainview village, who was formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits in Whitewater Township, Winona County, was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., July 5, 1839, son of Arnold and Christina (Rorick) Wood. The parents were natives of New York state, where they were engaged in farming. The father died in the fall of 1863 and was survived 34 years by his wife, who passed away in 1897. They were worthy people and members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their children those now living are Catherine, Orin and Peter. The deceased are William, Eliza J., Elizabeth, David, Alanson, Abraham, Charles and Louis. Peter C. Wood in his boyhood attended district school in New York state. Until 1857 he worked



for his father, and then came to Minnesota, locating in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, where until 1863 he worked at farm labor. After that he rented a farm in the same township for a year, and the next year rented one in Whitewater Township, Winona County. In 1865 he bought 80 acres in Whitewater Township and began the development of a farm, erecting all the buildings. There he was engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1892, and by that time had been so successful that he owned 633 acres in Whitewater Township, and had acquired a competence. In 1892 Mr. Wood retired and moved to Plainview village, where he resided continuously until 1909. Since then he has spent most of his time in the states of California and Oregon, but spends his summers in Plainview, Minn. During his active career as a farmer in Whitewater Township, he served two years as a member of his district school board; and he subsequently served six years on the Plainview school board as treasurer, and five years as a member of the village council, being recognized by his fellow citizens as a man of ability and public spirit. In his religious affiliations he has followed the example of his parents, being connected with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wood was married July 3, 1863, to Cevilla Leininger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Leininger of Woodland, Plainview Township. Her parents came to this locality from Pennsylvania in 1857, and were engaged in farming until 1892, after which they lived retired in Plainview village, where Mr. Leininger died in December, 1892, and Mrs. Leininger in 1910. They had seven children, three of whom are living, Elizabeth, Isaac and Catherine. The others, Lucy, Sarah, Margaret and Cevilla (Mrs. Peter C. Wood), have passed away. Mrs. Wood died February 12, 1909, and was tenderly laid to rest in Greenwood cemetery, Plainview village. She had been a loving wife and mother and was a woman whose loss was deeply felt. Mr. and Mrs. Wood had two children: John E., born July 18, 1864, who died September 17 the same year; and Alice M., born March 1, 1866, now Mrs. George W. French of Carleton, Oregon.

**Henry Brinkman**, a thriving representative of the farming interests of Mt. Pleasant Township, residing in section 16, was born in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, Minn., December 12, 1870, son of John and Engel (Martens) Brinkman. He was educated in the district school and was associated in agricultural work with his father until 30 years of age. In the year 1900 he came to Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, and bought his present farm of 240 acres in section 16, seven miles west of Lake City. Of its total area he has 230 acres under the plow, and, the soil being very productive, he is raising large quantities of grain and other farm products. He has from 40 to 50 head of high grade Shorthorn cattle, and from 25 to 40 Duroc-Jersey swine, with full blooded sires for each herd, and as a general farmer has achieved a pronounced success. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator and Lake Pepin Creamery Association, both of Lake City, and is a member of the school board of District No. 11. Since taking possession of his farm Mr. Brinkman has made some valuable improvements on it, having fenced most of it, sunk a 260-foot drilled well, and erected a steel windmill and a double corn crib, 38 feet long, with a driveway through the center. Mr. Brinkman assumed the responsibilities of domestic life in April, 1913, when he was married to Emma Henning, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Henning of Mt. Pleasant Township. Their home circle includes three children: Luella, born June 15, 1914; Ray, born May 25, 1916, and Roy, a stepson, born April 10, 1904. Mr. Brinkman and his family are members of the Belvidere congregation of the German Lutheran church.

**Claus Bremer**, who died on his farm in section 2, Mt. Pleasant Township, December 19, 1913, was for a number of years a well known and respected citizen of that township, and had done useful work as a developer of farm land. He was born in Hanover, Germany, March 5, 1866, son of Henry and Anna (Luetjen) Bremer, and came to the United States with his parents when about



15 years of age, the family settling in Goodhue County, Minn. Claus had acquired a common school education in his native land and attended school for some time here. After arriving in Minnesota he found work as a farm hand, which occupation he followed for a number of years. By 1896, through industry and economy, he had accumulated about \$2,000, and in the fall of that year he bought 230 acres of land in section 2, Mt. Pleasant Township, of which 100 acres were under the plow. There were no buildings, and so his first task was to erect a small house. Being now in a condition to enjoy domestic happiness, he married, July 25, 1897, Marie Catherine, daughter of Paul and Marie (Dohrmann) Cordes of Mt. Pleasant Township. She was born in Hanover, Germany, August 18, 1869, and came to America with her parents in 1883, they settling in Goodhue County. Mr. Bremer went to work at once to improve his farm by erecting good buildings, including a house, a good barn 36 by 60 by 16 feet, with an 8-foot basement, and equipped with steel stanchions, also with a lean-to 14 by 36; a granary 18 by 24, a poultry house, and machine shed. Since Mr. Bremer's death his widow has built a triple-walled silo and a circular hog-house with cement floor, and with the help of her two sons has conducted the farm successfully. It is well stocked with grade Shorthorn cattle, the herd numbering from 30 to 35, of which 12 to 15 are milch cows; also a herd of 15 to 30 Chester-White hogs. The farm is well tilled and very productive. Mr. Bremer was a thrifty and industrious man and highly respected. He served as treasurer of his school district for seven years and always took an interest in the welfare and progress of the community. Politically he was a Republican. He was a member of the German Lutheran church, he and his family worshipping with Emanuel congregation at West Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Claus Bremer were the parents of five children: Walter Paul, born June 3, 1898, who died January 8, 1911; Edna Marie and Edwin Frederick (twins), born September 18, 1899; Clarence Christian, born March 24, 1902, and Alma Marguerite, born August 24, 1906. All the surviving children are residing on the home farm with their mother. They were educated in the district school, and Edna Marie, in addition, attended the Minnesota Agricultural College.

**Jacob M. Stegner**, an early settler in Oakwood Township, was born in Indiana in 1825, of English and German descent. He was there reared and in 1851 married Rachel N. McGuffin, who was of Scotch and Irish descent. In 1866 they came to Wabasha County and bought 160 acres of wild land in Oakwood Township. The county had then been settled for some years and had a considerable population, but conditions were still quite primitive. Mr. Stegner set to work to build for himself and family a comfortable log house and to wrest a living from the soil, gradually breaking more and more land. When the railroad came through the tracks were located so near his house that the road-bed extended practically to its foundations. In 1881 a more suitable location was selected and a comfortable dwelling built. The family prospered with the years and won an honorable place in the community, residing there until 1886. They then moved to Zumbro Falls, where the father engaged in the general mercantile business, being thus occupied until his death in 1898. Soon after that event Mrs. Stegner removed to Lake City, where she resided with her daughter, Mrs. William Potter, until her own death, which occurred in the spring of 1908. In the Stegner family there were ten children: Benjamin F., Edwin J., Robert I., Johanna, Shannon M., and Clara, all born in Indiana; and Mary, Lorenzo D., Theodore and Rachel Ella, born in Oakwood Township. Benjamin F. was born in January 1, 1852, and now lives on a farm near Beardsley, Big Stone County, Minn. Edwin J. was born in 1854 and died at St. Paul, August 2, 1917. In early life he had been a farmer and at the time of his death was a traveling salesman for the McFadden Candy Co. of St. Paul. Robert I. was born in 1856 and was a farmer; he died in 1900 at Aurora, S. D. Johanna was born in 1858; she married Mason Brandt, a miller, and later a farmer at West Albany, this county, and died at Rochester in 1912 after undergoing an



operation. Shannon M. was born May 27, 1862, and is now a barber in Lake City. Clara, born in 1864, is now Mrs. William Potter of Minneapolis. Mary was born in 1867, and is now Mrs. Charles E. Winter of Minneapolis, Minn. Lorenzo D., born May 7, 1870, is a traveling salesman with headquarters at Minneapolis. Theodore, born August 17, 1872, is now register of deeds of Wabasha County, Rachel Ella, born in May, 1875, is now Mrs. B. H. Deters of St. Paul.

**Theodore Stegner**, register of deeds in Wabasha County, and formerly a well known railroad man, is a native of this county, having been born in Oakwood Township, August 17, 1872, son of Jacob M. and Rachael N. (McGuffin) Stegner, early settlers. He attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of 14 entered the village schools of Zumbro Falls. As a youth he was employed in farming operations. He started his business career in the winter of 1892-93 with a course in the Darling Business College at Rochester. The following spring he entered the office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at Zumbro Falls, and there learned telegraphy. In 1894 he was sent to Durand, Wis., and in 1895 was promoted to the position of agent at Theilman, in this county. In 1901 he occupied a similar position at Langdon, in Dakota County, Minn. In 1902 he was made a clerk in the freight department of the railroad at Lake City. In 1906 he entered into partnership with Russell Parson, of Lake City, in the contracting and building business, but in 1908 returned to the railroad in his former position at Lake City. His years of association with the public established his reputation as a man of ability and worth, and in 1912, though he had never aspired to office, he was persuaded to run for register of deeds. To this office he was elected by a comfortable majority, and took up the duties of his position January 1, 1913. He at once proved his ability, and his willingness to serve the public to his fullest power. Since then he has twice been re-elected, the first time without an opponent. Upon taking office here, Mr. Stegner established his home here. His real estate holdings include a quarter section of wild timber land in Beltrami County, this state. Fraternally, he is associated with the Masonic order, being a member of Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., of Wabasha, and Hope Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., Lake City. He is also a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union. Mr. Stegner was married February 2, 1897, to Annie E., daughter of Joseph and Henrietta Rahrman, of West Albany Township, this county, and they began homemaking at Theilman, this county. Mrs. Stegner was born in West Albany Township July 23, 1879, and died at Wabasha, May 2, 1916, leaving four children: Erwin J., born April 11, 1898; Arthur F., born October 5, 1899; Marguerite, born July 12, 1901; and Edna R., born December 15, 1904. The first three were born at Theilman, and the youngest at Lake City. Mr. Stegner was married January 18, 1919, to Emma Koelmel, born July 19, 1885, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Koelmel, of Wabasha. The family faith is that of the Congregational church.

**Abram J. Anderson**, a Wabasha County pioneer now living retired in the village of Hammond, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., October 9, 1838. He came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1858, as a young man of 20, locating in Zumbro Township, where he bought a pre-emption right to 160 acres in section 18. In 1861 he bought 80 acres in section 19, and erected buildings. The country was then wild, and though white settlers were coming in, there were as yet few cultivated farms. There was a good deal of timber and the Indians were numerous; so also were deer and wolves and various sorts of wild game. Mr. Anderson, like all the pioneer settlers, had to put up with more or less hardship and privation, but he made gradual progress in developing a farm, and became a little better off. In 1871 he bought 160 acres in section 20, Zumbro Township, and subsequently he bought 160 acres of land at Gettysburg, Dakota, (now South Dakota, and 240 acres in North Dakota, and at different times his total land possessions in the three states amounted to 800 acres. During





THEO. STEGNER







the period of these investments, he continued farming and stock raising on his home farm in Zumbro Township, making yearly trips to the Dakotas. For 35 years he bought cattle in the vicinity of Hammond. In 1915 he retired and rented his farm to his sons, and in 1919 moved to Hammond village. There are probably very few, if any, surviving pioneers of Wabasha County who have had such a long, active career, covering 52 years, and there are few who are better known or have a wider circle of friends and acquaintances. During his period of activity Mr. Anderson performed some public service, for 12 years being one of the supervisors on the Zumbro town board, and for many years serving on the school board of his district. He attends the Wesleyan Methodist church at South Troy. Mr. Anderson was first united in marriage on February 12, 1858, to Angeline Dennison of New York state, who after 14 years of married life died September 12, 1872. She left four children, namely: Alonzo D., born December 10, 1859, who is residing in Hammond; Hattie, born April 15, 1862, now the widow of Charles Devery, and who with her son, Grover, is operating a farm in Zumbro Township; Wesley W., born September 4, 1865, residing in Chester Township; Clark L., born August 23, 1868, who lives in Wabasha. Mr. Anderson was married secondly September 23, 1873, to Melvina Mitchell, a native of the state of Maine. By her he has had eight children, as follows: Mott M., born July 20, 1874, who is now postmaster at Hammond; Blanche E., born March 24, 1876, who is the wife of Walter Lord; Lynn R., born July 12, 1880, who resides in Hammond; Jesse L., born August 6, 1882, who died May 24, 1918; Lura A., born September 20, 1885, now Mrs. Peter Kruger of Rochester, Minn.; Ray A., born January 11, 1888, a farmer in Zumbro Township; Percy F., born December 28, 1893, also on the farm, and Roy W., born April 1, 1890. The last mentioned, Roy W., on September 18, 1917, was drafted into the U. S. Army, becoming a member of Company B, Second Regiment, 163d Depot Brigade, and served in France 19 months. He is now residing at home.

**Chalmer Scott Shore, V. M. D.**, was born October 18, 1873, on a farm near Three Springs, Penn., son of Eli E. and Angeline (Miller) Shore, of Dutch and early colonial Maryland blood. Here he received his common school education and was reared to farm pursuits by his parents. In the fall of 1898 he took up the study of veterinary medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and received his degree in June, 1901. With this preparation he came to Minnesota, established an office at Lake City and began the practice of his profession, which grew rapidly, and he soon found it necessary to hire an assistant. His professional work now covers Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted and Winona Counties, in Minnesota, and Pepin and Pierce Counties, across Lake Pepin, in Wisconsin. He has been a leader in the modern movements which have had for their object the improvement of farm and live stock conditions, and has ably supported the efforts of all public authorities in behalf of the same. He has been especially interested in the development and showing of all farm animals and in the building of a spirit of co-operation between the city or town and the farm. As a result of the work done by himself and others he has had the pleasure and satisfaction to see as many as 1,000 farmers and business men gathered and banqueted at one time to discuss agricultural conditions. His faith in this community as a farming and stock raising section is evidenced by the fact that he has acquired a 400-acre farm in Goodhue County, four and one-half miles west of Lake City, to which he gives his personal attention, and where he is taking an active part in the development of scientific farming and stock raising. That Dr. Shore has attained an enviable position in his profession and as a citizen, is perhaps best attested by the fact that since he began the practice of Veterinary Medicine in Lake City, twelve young men from this community, actuated undoubtedly by the desire to emulate, have chosen to follow this profession and have educated themselves and qualified and are at this time practicing. Dr. Shore has served as president of the Minnesota State Veterinary Association; member of the City Council of Lake City



(two terms). Fraternally he is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Shrine of the Masons, and of the Red Men and Modern Woodmen. He was married March 16, 1910, to Olga Chinberg, daughter of Charles and Martha Chinberg, of Lake City, and this union has been blessed with two children: Martha Angeline, born February 20, 1911, and Catherine Louise, born February 16, 1915. The family attends the Episcopal church.

**Henry John Meincke**, proprietor of two excellent farms in Mt. Pleasant Township, but who has recently retired and is now residing in Lake City, was born at West Florence, Goodhue County, Minn., November 9, 1872, son of Henry and Anna (Tomforde) Meincke. Accompanying his parents to Mt. Pleasant Township when young, he was educated in the common schools, and until he was 22 remained on the home farm working with his father. On May 24, 1894, he married Margaret E. Hoeft, daughter of John and Wilhelmina Hoeft, who resided on an adjoining farm, and they began housekeeping on the farm in section 29, where until recently they resided. This farm contains 160 acres and is provided with a good two-story frame house, lighted with gas, and standing in a beautiful yard shaded with large trees and surrounded with a fine hedge. There is also an adequate set of outbuildings, including a frame barn 38 by 70 by 16 feet in size, with a 9-foot stone basement and cement floor, and provided with steel stanchions; a granary 22 by 34 by 12; a corn crib and shed 24 by 30 by 12; a sheep barn 32 by 40 by 14; a calf barn of two stories 12 by 28; besides a poultry house, wash house, stave silo and steel windmill. In section 30 Mr. Meincke has another good farm of 240 acres, on which is a comfortable frame house, a new frame barn 44 by 72 by 14 feet, with full basement, and other substantial buildings. Both farms are highly cultivated, all the land being under the plow except about 20 acres. They are well stocked with from 35 to 50 head of high grade of Shorthorn cattle, and from 40 to 50 Duroc-Jersey hogs, the herds having full blooded sires. There is also a good flock of sheep. Mr. Meincke carried on general farming and stock raising very successfully, and was numbered among the leading farmers of his township, which he served several years on the board of supervisors. Politically he is a Republican, but exercises judgment in casting his vote, placing the man before the party. In the spring of 1920 he retired from active work, leasing his farm to his son, Henry G., and took up his residence in Lake City, buying a fine modern home at No. 306 South Oak street, where he now lives. He and his wife are the parents of six children: Laura Henrietta, born March 19, 1895; John Alfred Frederick, December 8, 1896; Henry George Emil, February 12, 1899; Arthur Adolph, January 7, 1903; Wilhelmina Anna, August 2, 1906; and Ralph Frederick, January 26, 1919. Laura Henrietta is now Mrs. Frank Furst of Mt. Pleasant Township, her marriage having taken place July 26, 1916. John Alfred Frederick, who is a farmer in Mt. Pleasant Township, was married May 30, 1918, to Geraldine Meyer, and has one child, Robert John, born July 17, 1919. Henry George Emil, who attended the Lake City High School, and was later graduated from the Minnesota Agricultural College, is now operating the home farm. He was married May 12, 1920, to Mabel M. Heltman. Arthur Adolph is a student in the Minnesota Agricultural College. Wilhelmina Anna is a freshman in the Lake City High School. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Belvidere congregation of the Lutheran church.

**Asa B. Doughty**, for many years president of the Lake City Mill Co., was born on Long Island, N. Y., in 1826, son of Samuel and Betsey (Nelson) Doughty. He lost his father in early life, and in 1837 came west to Bloomington, Ill., with his mother, his brother Edward and his sister Alice. The last named was the wife of Henry Coleman, who established a plant for the manufacture of plows, and with him Asa B. learned his trade. In 1855 he made a visit to Lake City and in 1857 he located here. After a time he engaged in the grain and commission business with a partner under the firm name of Bessey & Doughty. In 1863 this firm, in order to handle the financial requirements of





HENRY J. MEINCKE AND FAMILY.







its increasing business, established a banking business which, however, was discontinued in 1866. Some years later Mr. Doughty established a factory for the manufacturing of wagons, plows and harrows. In 1880 he bought the Lake City Flour Mills, entirely remodeled the plant, and established the Lake City Mill Co., of which he was made the president. Mr. Doughty was married in 1849 to Ellen McClung, a native of Virginia, and an early settler of Illinois. She died in 1862, leaving two children: Lillie, who married William C. Water; and Lulu, who married B. Y. McNairy. In 1864 Mr. Doughty married Sue Johns, a native of Pennsylvania.

**Frank Harper Doughty**, municipal judge of Lake City, was born in Bloomington, Ill., August 17, 1854, son of Samuel and Hannah (Rider) Doughty, who brought him to Lake City in 1854 when he was but a few months old. He passed through the Lake City schools and as a young man went to St. Cloud, in this state, to learn the jeweler's trade. After a year and a half, however, financial depression necessitated a discontinuation of the apprenticeship, and being unable to find another place in which to continue his training, Mr. Doughty came back to Lake City in 1872 and entered the mill of Doughty & Selover. There he had the misfortune to lose his right arm. Thereafter he was variously employed for nearly three decades. Standing high in the estimation of his fellow citizens as a substantial, reliable man, he served the city for some years as constable. He was also for a while State Oil Inspector for this region. December 10, 1900, he was appointed by Governor John Lind as municipal judge of Lake City, which position he has since retained by successive re-elections. In this capacity he has combined strict justice with a keen and sympathetic insight into human nature, and his work has been an important factor in maintaining the respect in which the enforcement of the law is here held. In addition to his judicial duties, Mr. Doughty holds the local agency for several fire insurance companies, and along this line does considerable business. Fraternally his affiliation is with the Independent Order of Foresters and the Modern Brotherhood of America. Mr. Doughty was married December 25, 1898, to Minerva Vought, daughter of James C. and Mary Ann (Gowdy) Vought. The family residence is that formerly occupied by Asa B. Doughty, and is one of the most substantial homes in the city.

**Martin J. Rucker**, a prosperous business man of Mazeppa, who during his active career has successfully turned his hand to various occupations of a mercantile character, was born in Oronoco, Olmsted County, Minn., January 6, 1863, son of Frederick and Johanna (Rueber) Rucker. The parents were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, who came to this country in December, 1860, accompanied by four children, two sons and two daughters: Frederick, Jr., Jacob Charles, Reca and Katherine. In the spring of 1861 the family embarked from a steamboat at Read's Landing, proceeded to Lake City, and went from there by ox team to Oronoco, where they settled on a farm of 120 acres. There the parents resided until their death. Of the four children who came from Germany with them, Frederick is now deceased; Jacob C. is living in the village of Oronoco; Reca married David Tibbitts, of Redwood Falls, where she died in 1904, and Katherine married Ernest Adler, of Oronoco, where she died in 1917. Martin J. Rucker was reared on the home farm in Oronoco, Olmsted County, where he attended the district and public schools. There he remained until he was 20 years old, and then, coming to Mazeppa, began his business career, selling pianos and sewing machines for J. B. Gregoire. From that employment he entered the general store of E. L. Ford, in which he worked as clerk for 11 years. Then, with O. G. Nichols and James Robinson, he purchased the stock and business of the Ford Company, and continued in the partnership for five years, at the end of which time he sold his interest. In December, 1899, he started a general store on his own account, which he carried on until 1912, when he sold out to Fred Prahl. In the same year, 1912, he was appointed postmaster, which office he held for four years. In 1916 he was ap-



pointed oil inspector for the county. Since resigning the post office he has sold insurance, silos, pianos and nursery stock, showing an energy and ability that have made him respected as a business man. For three years he has served the village as councilman, and for 14 years has been a justice of the peace. In the Masonic order he belongs to the Blue Lodge and Eastern Star Chapter, and is also a member of the Elks, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Degree of Honor. Mr. Rucker was united in marriage in April, 1884, at Trempealeau, Wis., to Caroline Bobzine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bobzine of Oronoco, Minn. Her parents were natives of Germany who came to Minnesota in the eighties and engaged in farming here, but are now deceased. Their children were: Bertha, wife of William Ritter of Rochester; Mary, a widow residing in Chicago, Ill.; Caroline, wife of M. J. Rucker; Amelia, now deceased, who was the wife of J. C. Rucker; and Louis C., residing in Chicago. Mrs. Rucker has a half brother, Fred C. King, who married Sophia Miller, but he is now deceased. She has a half sister, Augusta, who is the wife of Charles Kurth of Oronoco. Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Rucker have one child, Grace C., born March 24, 1905, who is attending high school at Mazeppa.

**Bernard C. Blee**, who is prosperously engaged in truck farming near the village of Kellogg, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1866, son of Bernard and Ellen (Mullen) Blee, and a member of a family of eight children. The parents always resided in their native land, where Bernard C. attended school. In 1886 he came to the United States and directly to Wabasha County, where at first he found employment at farm work. Later he bought 120 acres of rough land, which he cultivated for a while, but afterwards sold, and in 1906 bought 54 acres of land just outside the village of Kellogg, and devoted himself to truck farming, in which occupation he has since continued with profitable results. He has a good frame house of eight rooms, barns and store-house. Politically a Democrat, he is also a member of the Catholic church and of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Mr. Blee was married April 26, 1898, at Wabasha, Minn., to Mary Hughes, daughter of Anthony and Mary (O'Hara) Hughes. Her parents, natives of Galway, Ireland, came to the United States about 1881. Mrs. Mary Hughes died in 1914, but Mr. Hughes is still living. They had eight children, of whom six survive. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Blee, seven of whom are living, namely: Sister Serenus, now in a convent at Rochester; James, Bernard, Joseph, Anna, Margaret and John. Arthur and Michael are deceased. The survivors, except "Sister Serenus," reside with their parents, those of suitable age attending school.

**Bernard Steffes**, an enterprising and well to do farmer of Highland Township, was born in Rolling Stone, Winona County, Minn., in 1867. His parents, John and Katherine Steffes, were born in Luxemburg, the former coming to the United States in 1860 and locating for one year in Buffalo. He then returned to Luxemburg, but came again to this country in 1866, and to Winona, Minn., whence he went to Rolling Stone, Winona County, residing there two years. In 1868 he came to Wabasha County, buying 138 acres in section 24, Highland Township, where he began agricultural work. The land was mostly wild, only 30 acres being broken, and he at once began the task of clearing more, which he did with the help of an ox team. His original buildings were an old log house and a straw barn, but in time he erected a good house of eight rooms and a barn 28 by 38 feet, besides other buildings. He and his wife, Katherine, had 11 children—four sons and seven daughters. Three of the sons and five of the daughters are now living, namely: Bernard, of Highland Township; Maggie, wife of John Klee, of Olmsted County; Susie, who married George Klee, of Rochester, Minn.; Lizzie, wife of Nicholas Weber, of Watopa Township; Katherine, wife of Roy Irish, of Plainview Township; Mary, wife of Robert Bennett, of Plainview Township; Peter, a business man of Kellogg; and John, who is farming in Watopa Township. Those deceased are: Angeline, who was the wife of Charlie Heaser, of Plainview Township; Nicholas, who died









MR. AND MRS. GOTTFRIED SCHAD



young; and one who died in infancy. The mother of these children died July 24, 1896, and the father in 1914. Bernard Steffes was reared on the home farm and attended school in district No. 40. He worked on the home farm assisting his father until the latter's death, at which time he was made administrator of the estate. He subsequently managed the farm until he purchased it in 1915, since which time he has been the sole owner. He is successfully engaged in general farming, stock raising and dairying and is numbered among the prosperous citizens of his township. Mr. Steffes was married in 1903 at St. Charles, Minn., to Rosa Lenertz, daughter of Peter and Mary Lenertz, her parents being early settlers in Winona County, where they followed farming. They had 14 children, of whom 11 are now living. To Mr. and Mrs. Steffes three children have been born: Katherine, February, 1904; Dorothy, February 21, 1909; and Mildred, August, 1912. The family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Steffes belongs also to the order of Woodmen.

**John H. Lee**, a well known and popular resident of Highland Township, who came to Wabasha County at an early date with his parents, was born in Norway, January 12, 1854, son of Oliver and Bertha (Knutson) Lee. The family came to America in 1861, locating in Blackearth Valley, Dane County, Wis., and he attended school for some time in the village of Blackearth. After farming in Dane County until 1865, the parents came to Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn., and rented the Andrew Helgerson farm of 160 acres, Mr. Helgerson furnishing everything and giving them one-fourth of the crop for their labor. In 1867 Oliver Lee bought the homestead right of 160 acres in section 28, Highland Township, of Mr. Lathrop, where he and his wife resided engaged in agriculture until their death, Oliver Lee passing away February 29, 1888, and Mrs. Bertha Lee April 10, 1901. They were the parents of six children, of whom three are living. Those deceased are: Andrew; Anna, who was the wife of William Barnid; and Carrie, who was the wife of Even Evenson. The survivors are: Bertha, wife of Chris Christoverson; Knute, who resides in Oregon; and John H., of Highland Township, who is now the owner of the old home farm on which he lives alone. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and a reliable citizen, respected by his fellow townsmen.

**Gottfried Schad**, a pioneer of Highland Township, now deceased, was a native of Germany, and came to the United States and to Wabasha County, Minn., when this part of the country was new and wild, homesteading 160 acres of land in sections 5 and 8, Highland Township. The tract was largely covered with timber, which he cleared, and his first residence here, erected by himself, was a small log shanty without windows or doors. After marrying Barbara Lowry, a native of Indiana, the needs of a growing family made better accommodations imperative, and he accordingly erected a larger and better log dwelling, in which he and his wife resided for the rest of their lives. To his original tract of 160 acres he added 20 acres more, and continued general farming until his death in 1880. He took an active part in the development of the county and was always ready to assist in any movement for the betterment of the community in which he lived. His wife survived him 26 years, dying in 1906. They had a family of ten children, of whom seven are now living, namely: Michael, residing on the old home farm, which is now owned by his brother, Joseph J.; Genevieve, wife of August Strich, a farmer of Olmsted County; Christian, who is farming in Mt. Pleasant Township; Elizabeth, wife of Fred Hopkins, of Wabasha; Anna and Margaret, residing with their brother, Joseph; and Joseph J., who, as previously mentioned, is the owner of the farm. Those deceased are John, the first born; Godfried and Lena. Since the father's death Joseph and his brothers have added 120 acres to the farm, making its area 300 acres. The house also had been remodeled and enlarged, and contains ten rooms, the modern part being frame and enclosing the original log structure. This improvement was made in 1917. Other improvements



have also been effected in the erection of additional buildings. The interest of the other heirs was purchased by Joseph, the present owner.

**Joseph J. Schad**, proprietor of the old Schad farm in sections 5 and 8, Highland Township, of which he is one of the most enterprising citizens, was born in the old family residence on this farm, in section 8, in April, 1875, son of Gottfried and Barbara (Lowry) Schad. He was reared on this place, which at the time of his birth was but partly improved, and in his boyhood attended the district school, though as soon as he was old enough to work he had to make himself useful on the farm, which has always been his home. At his father's death in 1880 the place contained 180 acres, which he and his brothers subsequently increased to the present area of 300 acres. Having in 1900 bought the interests of the other heirs, he set about improving the farm, enlarged and remodeled the house, making it into a good frame residence of ten rooms; erected a barn 36 by 80 feet, and also a tool house, granary and other buildings. In addition to the usual crops, he raises cattle, hogs and horses, and is doing a thriving business. He is a stockholder in the Theilman creamery, now used as a cream station, and in the Farmers' elevator at the same place, of which he is a director. He has served two years as town treasurer and is one of the supervisors of Highland Township. In religion he is a Catholic. His sisters, Anna and Margaret, and his brother, Michael, reside on the farm with him.

**John S. Loechler**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Highland Township, was born in Wabasha village, this county, April 18, 1878, son of Gabriel and Maggie (Mitmesser) Loechler. The father, who came to the United States from Germany at an early day, was married in Wabasha, where he first located. He was variously employed, working for some time in a grocery store, on the railroad, and in the round-house of the narrow-gauge road, and for a long time ran an engine in the saw and planing mill of Mr. Chamberlain. In such occupations he was employed until his death in 1911. His wife is now living in Minneapolis with her daughter, Mrs. Dennie Grogen. Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Loechler had ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom are living: Anna, the wife of Nicholas Peters, lives at Degraff, Minn.; Henry, foreman at Big Joe Mill, Wabasha; Gabriel, a farmer in Pepin Township; Christine, wife of William Miller, a farmer residing in Buffalo County, Wis.; John S., subject of this sketch; Maggie, wife of Joe Kocpman, of Wabasha; Martha, wife of Dennie Grogen, of Minneapolis; George, a railroad man living at Red Wing, Minn.; Tillie, wife of Fred Cook, of Wabasha, her husband being an engineer on the C. M. & St. P. railway; and Charlie, who is a retired farmer living in Wabasha. John S. Loechler was reared in Wabasha, where he attended school, both the public school and that of St. Felix. For several summers he worked in a brick yard, and then engaged in railroad work for a time. After that for nine years he was a packer in the St. Joe Mill in Wabasha and for three years a general hand, then afterwards for two years a machine tender. In 1914 he bought 40 acres of land in Cook's Valley where he farmed for four years. At the end of that time he sold that farm and bought one of 310 acres in sections 3 and 10, Highland Township, where he has since resided. The farm is provided with a good red brick house of 12 rooms, a barn 30 by 40 feet, and other necessary buildings, and he is raising graded stock, including cattle, hogs and sheep, with good financial results. In 1920 he let a contract for a new frame barn, 36 by 80 feet, with an 8-foot cement basement. Mr. Loechler was married in Wabasha in 1898 to Sophia Tentis, daughter of John and Mary Tentis. Her parents, now deceased, came to the United States from Germany in a sailing vessel in 1878, and settled in Cook's Valley, Glasgow Township, this county and state. They had a family of ten children, of whom nine are now living, those in addition to Mrs. Loechler being: Adam, a farmer in Highland Township; John R., who is farming in Glasgow Township; Delia, wife of John Tebor, a farmer in Watopa Township; Jake, a farmer of Glasgow Township; Susie, wife of Ed Graner of Glasgow



Township; Allen, also of that township; Emil, a farmer in Minneiska Township; and Frank, engaged in the same occupation in Glasgow Township. Mr. and Mrs. Loechler are the parents of six children: Albert J., Lawrence, Herman, Mary, Susie and Sophia, all residing on the home farm, which the sons are helping to cultivate.

**John Hostettler**, a respected resident of the village of Kellogg, where he is living retired after an active and successful career in farming, was born in Switzerland, August 11, 1857, son of Christ and Hannah Hostettler, the father being a butcher by trade. Both parents died in their native Switzerland, neither coming to this country. They had four children, of whom John was the only son, and the only one to come to America, which he did in 1881. From Wabasha, which was the first place he reached in this country, he came to Highland Township, where he located, and for ten years subsequently worked out on farms. After that he rented a farm, later buying a place of 40 acres in the woods, but not liking the latter place, he sold it and in 1905 bought 240 acres in sections 12 and 13, Highland. This place had a house on it and there was some timber, which he cleared. Since then he has improved and cultivated the farm, erected a barn 32 by 62 feet, and other outbuildings. His early labors on the place were carried on under difficulties, as it was in the winter, there being no roads, and the ground was heavily carpeted with snow, but conditions have improved and his latter years on the farm were spent in comparative ease. He was successful in all branches of farm work, raising grain, cattle and hogs and doing some dairying. In 1920 Mr. Hostettler retired and took up his residence in Kellogg on account of the poor health of himself and wife. The farm is now operated by his son, Winfield. Mr. Hostettler was married in Switzerland to Elizabeth Zwallen, a native of that country, who came to the United States after him, in 1882. Her parents, John and Lizzie Zwallen, both died in Switzerland, never having come to this country. Mr. and Mrs. Hostettler have eight children, all living, namely: Alben, of Kellogg; Ernest, who is helping his brother Winfield on the home farm; William, who is employed on the Fox farm in Lake City; Clara, wife of Andrew Shouweiler of Kellogg; Winfield, previously mentioned; Matilda, who is keeping house for Winfield; Fred, residing in Kellogg; and Olivia, who is clerk in the Kellogg Co-operative store. All the members of the family are religiously affiliated with one church or another, dividing their membership between the Methodist and Lutheran churches.

**Ignatz Evers**, one of the leading farmers in Highland Township, operating a farm of 240 acres, was born in Germany, November 6, 1853, son of Barney and Rosa Evers. The parents, who were farmers, lived and died in their native Germany. They had four sons and two daughters, only one son and one daughter being now living, namely: Ignatz and Louise. The latter is the wife of Henry Angelbeck. In addition to these two, the two other brothers, Barney and Joseph, came to the United States and both died here. The other sister, Theresa, died in Germany. Ignatz Evers was reared on a farm and attended school in his native land. In 1878 he came to America, locating in Wabasha, Minn., where he resided, working out by the day until 1902, when he began farming for himself on the Caspar Schad farm, which he purchased. This farm, which contains 240 acres, lies partly in sections 4 and 5, Highland Township, and partly in sections 32 and 33, Glasgow Township, and is provided with a good frame house of eight rooms; two barns, one 30 by 80, and the other 20 by 30 feet, with a granary attached; a machine shed, and other substantial buildings, each of which is lighted by electricity from Mr. Evers' own electric plant. Mr. Evers is successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising, breeding horses, cattle, hogs and poultry. His farm is under good cultivation and is ably managed, with correspondingly good financial results. In 1884 Mr. Evers was married in Highland Township to Mary Schad, who was born at McGregor, Iowa, July 16, 1857, daughter of Casper and Genevieve

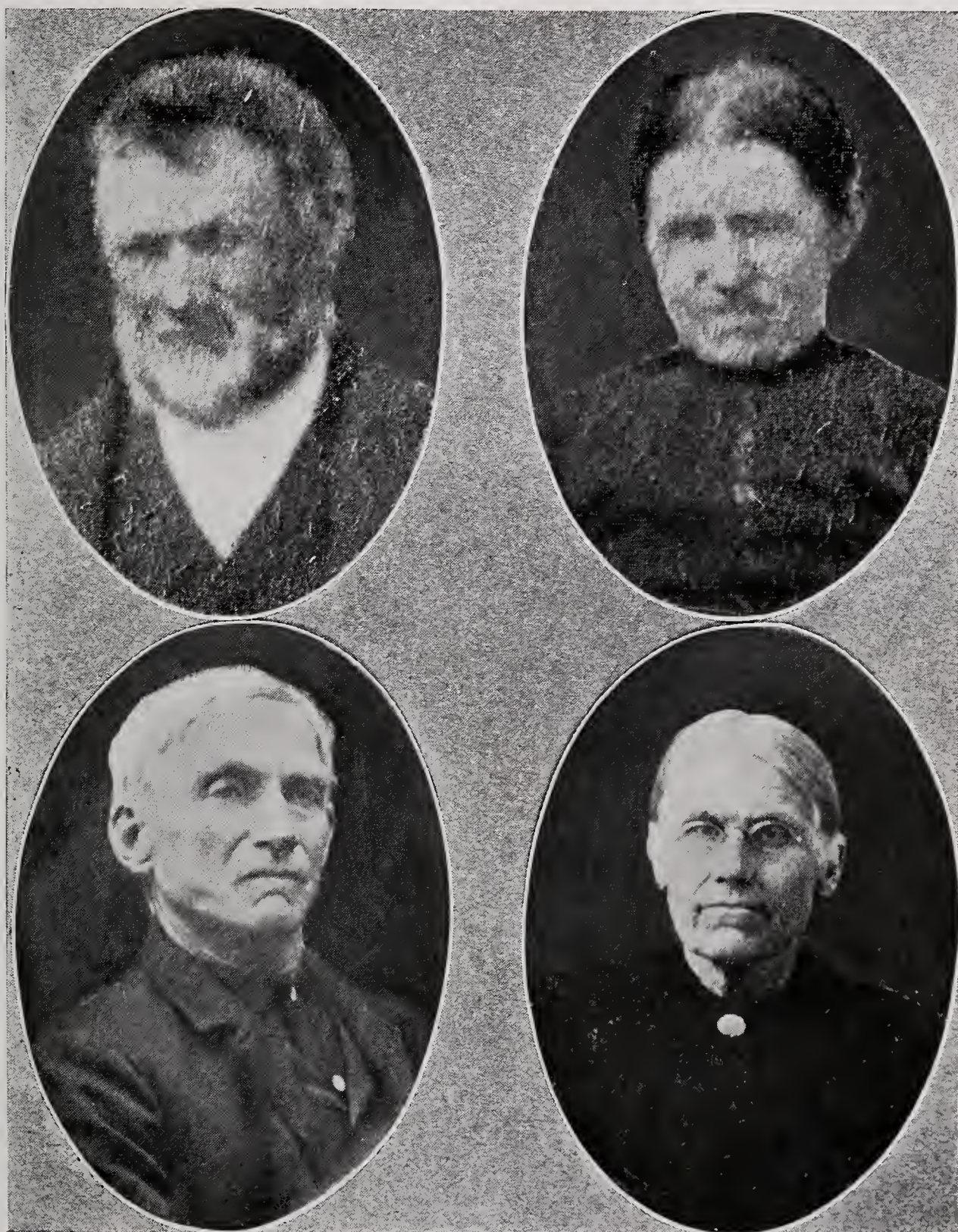


Schad, her parents being old settlers and farmers in Highland Township. Both are now deceased, Mr. Schad dying August 17, 1902, and Mrs. Schad on May 26, the same year. They had three daughters, Lizzie, Mary and Anna, of whom Lizzie is the only one now living. Mr. and Mrs. Evers became the parents of three sons and one daughter: Theodore, Edward, Joseph and Bertha, all living at home. Mrs. Evers died December 9, 1910, since which time Bertha has kept house for her father and brothers. The family are members of the Catholic church, the sons belonging to the Knights of Columbus. Joseph C. enlisted in the Heavy Artillery and was attached to the 163rd Depot Brigade at Camp Cody, New Mexico. He was honorably discharged December 13, 1919.

**Bernard Evers**, who is numbered among the active and successful farmers of Highland Township, residing in section 13, was born in Wabasha Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1880, son of Joseph and Theresa Evers. The parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States in 1875, settling in Wabasha County, Minn., on a farm in Wabasha Township. After operating that farm until 1881, they bought one of 200 acres in section 4, Highland Township, to which they subsequently added until it reached its present area of 400 acres. Here Joseph Evers died July 4, 1907, and his wife in September, 1914. After the mother's death the farm was purchased by two of the sons, Henry and Frank, who now operate it. When first taken possession of by Joseph Evers it was all new land, and he and his sons placed it under cultivation. They also replaced the original log shanties with a good residence, a substantial barn and other necessary structures, keeping full pace with the general progress of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Evers had a family of 11 children, of whom nine are now living. They were: Bernard, Henry, Frank, Louise, Lucy, Mary, Celia, Lizzie, Rose, Anna and Joseph. As before mentioned, Henry and Frank are on the home farm; Louise is keeping house for Bernard; Lucy is the wife of Charles Kreyer of Glasgow Township; Mary is the wife of Henry Emerson of Highland; Celia is the wife of Will Demming of Oakwood Township; Lizzie and Rose are on the home farm, and Anna and Joseph are deceased. Bernard Evers was educated in district school No. 98, and was reared on the home farm, on which he became industrially active when old enough to work. There he remained until 1913, when he bought 160 acres in section 13, where he has since lived, and where he is now engaged in general farming, stock raising and dairying with profitable results. His residence is a good stone house of eight rooms, his barn measures 40 by 60 feet, and he has a good granary, machine-shed and other outbuildings, all substantial and in good condition. All the buildings are equipped with electric light, and he uses electric power for operating his cream separator and for other purposes, his methods in all things being up to date and effective. He is a member of the Catholic church, belonging to Conception parish, and he is also a member of the Knights of Columbus. Thus far he has not married, his sister, Louise, as previously mentioned, keeping house for him.

**Patrick T. Norton**, who is operating a 200-acre farm in Highland Township, carrying on diversified farming and stock raising, was born in this township May 26, 1865, son of Patrick and Mary (Flynn) Norton. Both parents were natives of Ireland, the father born in Limerick, and the mother in Kings County, in 1834. Both came to America when young with their respective parents, the mother at the age of 16, her parents going to Wayne County, Pennsylvania. They were married in New York City in 1855, and subsequently resided in Chicago until April, 1856. Then they moved to Racine, Wis. In May, 1858, they arrived in Wabasha County, Minn., and settled on a farm in Highland Township, on which they subsequently resided for 47 years, or until 1905, engaged in agricultural pursuits. Then taking up their residence in Plainview, they remained there living retired for some six or seven years, at the end of which time they moved back to the home farm. There Patrick Norton, the father, died July 13, 1917. His wife survived him two years or more, passing away





MR. AND MRS. PATRICK NORTON, MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MAHER







in September, 1919, having resided with her son, Patrick, after Mr. Norton's death. Their family numbered eight children, of whom four are now living, namely: Patrick, James, John and Ellen, the last mentioned being the wife of William Maher of Plainview. Those deceased are: Catherine, who married Michael Foley of Highland Township; Mary Ann, who died when 17 years old; Michael and Bartley. The father took a prominent part in all public matters pertaining to the welfare of the public. Patrick T. Norton acquired his education in the district school, and was reared on the home farm which he helped to develop. He remained with his parents until 30 years old, and then began farming for himself, buying 160 acres in section 35, Highland Township, to which he has since added 40 acres. When he first took this place he had to go into the timber to find a building spot, and erected a frame house of seven rooms, to which he has since made additions, transforming it into an 11-room residence, supplied with water. His barn is of modern construction, 34 by 58 feet, with a cement floor basement for stock, accommodating 12 head of horses and 18 head of cattle. He also has another cattle barn 30 by 30 feet, with cement floor, and a lean-to for sheep 16 by 30; a granary with basement and elevator, and a garage 12 by 20 feet. His sheep, of which he has a good-sized flock, are of the Shropshire variety, while he has also a good herd of Chester-White hogs. For six years Mr. Norton has been a member of the town board, of which in January, 1920, he was made chairman. He is a member of the Catholic church, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Foresters. He was married October 23, 1895, to Mary Maher, daughter of William and Bridget (Tierney) Maher of Oakwood Township, her parents being natives of Ireland. Bridget Tierney came to America when 18 years of age with her brother, first locating in Ottawa, Canada. She was married to William Maher in New York, and after a few years' residence there, they came in 1856 to Wabasha County, Minn., and engaged in farming. They had seven children: Anna, Julia, Delia, William, Jr., Mary, Kate and Nellie. Anna married Michael Sullivan, whom she survives. Julia became the wife of Michael Judge, and Delia the wife of Daniel Judge, all of Highland Township. Kate married Walter Flanders, of Rochester, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. William Maher are both deceased, Mrs. Maher passing away in April, 1909, and her husband in the following year. There are now living thirty of their grandchildren and three of the great grandchildren. To Mr. and Mrs. Patrick T. Norton eight children have been born, of whom seven are living: Mary, wife of Henry Saggisor of Plainview, and the mother of two children, Francis and Charles; Aiden J., Delia, Julia, Wilfred, Joseph and Leslie. Delia and Joseph, Wilfred, Julia and Leslie are attending school. Mr. and Mrs. Norton's other child, Clara, died in April, 1911.

**Henry Evers**, a prosperous farmer of Highland Township, who, with his brother Frank is operating the old home farm established by his parents, situated partly in Highland and partly in Glasgow Township, was born on this farm February 12, 1887, son of Joseph and Theresa Evers. The parents, natives of Germany, settled in Wabasha County in 1875, residing in Wabasha Township until 1881, and then removing to Highland Township, where they bought 200 acres in section 4 and subsequently developed a farm which they enlarged by purchase to an area of 400 acres. The father, Joseph, died in 1907, and his wife in 1914. They had a family of ten children, of whom nine are now living. Henry Evers was reared on the home farm and acquired his education in the district school. He assisted his father until the latter's death, and subsequent to that event he and his brother Frank carried on the farm for their mother. When she died Henry and Frank purchased the property and have since operated it together, each giving his attention to a certain portion. Henry's part consists of 250 acres, part in Glasgow and part in Highland Township. He has a good farm house of nine rooms, and two barns, one 36 by 72 and the other 30 by 50 feet, with a good granary, machine shed and other buildings. He and his brother follow general farming and stock raising, and are



doing a paying business. Their sisters, Lizzie and Rose, keep house for them. The family are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Evers belongs also to the Knights of Columbus.

**Henry F. Strauss**, a well to do farmer of Chester Township, where, and in which vicinity, he is well known and personally esteemed, was born in this township November 22, 1877, son of Henry and Katherine (Prom) Strauss. The parents were natives of Luxemburg, who came to America in the early sixties, first locating in Wisconsin. After remaining in that state for a number of years, they came to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in Chester Township, where they bought 160 acres of land in section 4, on which Henry Strauss erected a new set of buildings and put up fences. There he was engaged in general farming, including stock raising, until his death on April 24, 1904. His widow now resides in the village of Belle Chester. They had 11 children, John F., Henry F., Stephan, Frank, Rose, Cecelia, Christina, who are living, and Stephan (first), Anton, Nicholas and Mary, who are deceased. The family are members of the Catholic church. Henry F. Strauss was educated in the Catholic school at Belle Chester. After becoming industrially active he worked for his father for a number of years. In 1908 he rented the home farm of his mother and operated it under rental until 1915, when he purchased it. He has followed general farming with good success, raising both grain and stock, and is one of the representative farmers of his township. On June 16, 1908, Mr. Strauss was united in marriage with Katherine Delva, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Delva of Chester Township. Her parents came from Luxemburg to America in 1871, settling on the farm in Chester Township, this county, on which they now reside. Like the Strauss family, they are members of the Catholic church. They have had eleven children, Michael, Anna, Clara, Katherine, Elizabeth, John, Nicholas, Joseph, Mary, Peter and Nicholas (second). The first Nicholas died young. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Strauss four children have been born: Hildegard K., May 6, 1910; Alfred S., born August 1, 1911, who died at the age of four and a half months, on December 17, 1911; Loretta E., born March 27, 1913; and Alvin H., born July 18, 1919. The family of Henry F. Strauss are members of the Catholic church.

**George Nehring**, who owns and until recently operated a farm of 150 acres in section 21, Chester Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 21, 1863. He grew to manhood in his native land, where he was married December 22, 1882, to Magdalena Zuhling. In 1905, with his wife and family, he came to America, and to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in Chester Township, where until 1912 he operated different farms. He then bought his farm in section 21, Chester Township, on which he successfully carried on general farming and stock raising until August, 1920. He then rented the farm to a tenant and moved to section 19, where he is now living retired. He is a member of St. John's Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Nehring have had ten children, all of whom were born in Germany, as follows: Henry, November 30, 1883; John, December 30, 1884; Christ, December 26, 1887; George, April 18, 1890; Mary, July 26, 1892; Henry, November 26, 1894; Gesiana, December 13, 1896; Katherine, January 12, 1899; Sophia, June 12, 1902; and Louis, April 14, 1904. The second Henry mentioned died April 30, 1910, at the age of 16 years. Katherine died October 23, 1918, in her nineteenth year. Gesiana is now the wife of Albert Grote, a farmer in Bear Valley, and Mary the wife of Fred Arendt of Zumbrota.

**Henry H. Blohm**, who is profitably engaged in agriculture in section 4, Gillford Township, was born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn., August 18, 1860, son of Christian Joachim and Maria Anna (Yarcho) Blohm. The parents were natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, where they were married in 1854, and immediately set out for the United States, the journey to this country taking the place of a honeymoon trip. After four years' residence at McKino, now included within the limits of Chicago, in 1858 they came





HENRY H. BLOHM AND FAMILY.







to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in West Albany Township, on section 21, on a tract of wild land, on which he erected a log house 14 by 16 feet in size. In this little house they took up their abode and in time enlarged it by building additions, and Christian J. Blohm began the development of his farm, keeping up the work for seven or eight years, or until his death on January 17, 1868. By that time he had what was then considered a good house and other buildings. His widow continued on the farm until May, 1900, when she took up her residence with her son, Henry H., who was then living in Lake City. On August 28, 1917, she died on his farm in Gillford Township. Mr. and Mrs. Christian J. Blohm had four children, all sons: William H., born in Illinois, who is living in section 1, Gillford Township, Wabasha County; Frederick W., who is a farmer at Asheville, New York; Henry H., of Gillford Township, and Frank G., who was a teacher and died at Wilmot, S. D., April 24, 1890. The three younger sons were born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County. Henry Blohm was educated in the district school in West Albany Township, and resided on his parents' farm until 1892. For some years he taught school in Wabasha, Norman and Marshall counties, Minn. On September 23, 1893, he married Mathilde E. Blom, who was born in Norway, March 3, 1876, daughter of Peter and Else Blom, afterwards residents of Lake City, Minn., but now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Blohm began housekeeping in Lake City, where he was employed by the C. E. Hinckley Furniture and Undertaking establishment until the fall of 1907. He had previously, in 1895, bought a farm of 160 acres in sections 3 and 4, Gillford Township, which in the meanwhile, while working in Lake City, he had rented out, but in the fall of 1907 he took up his residence on it with his family and has since made it his home. It is one of the best farms in the township and, it may be said, in the county, and is all under cultivation. Mr. Blohm carries on diversified farming with profitable results. He is a successful breeder of pure blooded Hereford cattle, Shropshire sheep and grade hogs, and has a good operating equipment. In 1914 he built a modern two-story stucco residence of ten rooms, equipped with hot water heating plant, and his other buildings include a good barn, 30 by 50 by 18 feet, with an "L" 20 by 20 by 12; a granary 20 by 30 by 14; machine shed 14 by 30; sheep barn 24 by 36 by 16; a tile silo 13 by 36, with a capacity of 110 tons, and a steel windmill. The barn and house are electrically lighted, and as a part of his modern outfit Mr. Blohm has an Overland car. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator of Zumbro Falls and in the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Zumbro Falls. He was also one of the organizers of the Oak Center Creamery and was its vice president for four years, and he helped to organize the Farmers' Shipping Association of Zumbro Falls and the Farmers' Co-operative elevator of Lake City. Mr. Blohm belongs to several fraternal orders, including the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he has held the office of adviser for a year and a half; the Royal Neighbors, and the Modern Brotherhood of America. He and his wife are the parents of a son, Ralph H., who was born November 29, 1897, and who was educated in the common school and the School of Agriculture at St. Paul, and is now associated with his father in the operation of the farm. The family are religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church at Oak Center, which Mr. Blohm is serving as steward. He may be termed a pioneer of the county by reason of his early birth here, and his parents were among the actual pioneers, arriving here poor with an ox team from Illinois, accompanied by John Schmidt and Henry Schmuser, who, like themselves, are now deceased.

**John E. Searles**, an early settler in Minnesota, for a number of years a resident of Chester Township, Wabasha County, and later of Mazeppa village, where he died in 1914, was born in Willis, Cambridgeshire, England, October 13, 1838, son of George and Ann (Clippold) Searles. The parents lived and died in their native land, where their son, John E., remained until 1865. Then coming to the United States, he made his way west to Pine Island, Goodhue



County, Minn., where he found employment on the farm of John Hardie, of which he became the manager after Mr. Hardie's death. On his marriage in 1873 he bought a farm near Lena, Goodhue County, which he operated until 1883. He then sold it and went to California, but soon returned from that far distant state and resumed general farming, buying 160 acres in Chester Township, Wabasha County. Later he enlarged his farm by the purchase of 80 additional acres, and continued there until his retirement in 1903, when he moved to Mazeppa. He served as a member of the school board, and was a citizen of value to the community in which he lived. His widow is now the owner of the farm, but resides in Mazeppa. Mr. Searles was married January 3, 1873, at Pine Island, to Harriet Hallaway, who was born in Sussex, England, in 1848, daughter of John and Ruth Hallaway. Her ancestors belonged to a noble or high born English family, her grandfather being "lord of the manor" in his locality, and the proprietor of 750 acres of land. John Hallaway, father of Mrs. Searles, was born in England in 1819, and his wife in 1818. They came to the United States about 1861, when their daughter, Harriet, was 13 years old, settling on a farm in Pine Island, Goodhue County, Minn. There they made their home until 1893, when they came to live with their daughter, Mrs. Searles. The father died in 1897 and the mother in 1902. Of their eight children three are living, the two in addition to Harriet being: Julia, wife of Charles Crouch, living on a farm in Goodhue County, four miles from Mazeppa; and Frederick, who is a farmer at Holloway, Swift County, Minn. Those deceased are John, Thomas, Mary, Harry and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. John E. Searles were the parents of two children: George W., who married Laura Majerus, and is engaged in the real estate business in Mazeppa; and Pearl, wife of S. J. Hopper, of Portland, Ore.

**Bartholomew Klein**, a pioneer of Wabasha County, and one of the first settlers in Highland Township, was born in Luxemburg and came to this country in 1856, first locating in Dubuque, Iowa. From there he came to Wabasha County, making the trip with an ox team. After entering this county, he crossed Greenwood Prairie to Glasgow Township, and then came on to Highland Township, where he took a claim in section 14, where his son John N. now lives. Here he built a small log shanty, cutting the logs himself. Subsequently, when his farm had been properly surveyed, he found that one corner of his house was right on the dividing line. The land was wild and covered with timber, and he set to work to clear and develop the farm with the help of an ox team. He married Katherine Shouweiler, who had come to this country in 1854, the Shouweiler family being among the first settlers here. Mr. Klein worked hard on his farm, but was not long permitted to enjoy the fruits of his labor, as he died in 1863. His widow then rented the farm out for a time, and was subsequently married to Mathias Markous, by whom she had a daughter, Anna, who married Mike Ellenz and lives in St. Paul. By her first husband, Bartholomew Klein, she had four children: Maggie, who married Joe Emerick and died in 1919, leaving three sons; Katherine, wife of Garrett Graff of Lake County, S. D.; John N., of Highland Township; and Susan, wife of Joseph Graff of Kellogg, Minn. Mrs. Bartholomew Klein died in 1883.

**John N. Klein**, a prominent representative of the agricultural and stock raising interests of Highland Township, was born on his parents' farm in section 14, in this township, June 12, 1861, son of Bartholomew and Katherine (Shouweiler) Klein. He was reared on the home farm and educated in district school No. 37. He was obliged to begin work at an early age and became thoroughly initiated into all kinds of farm work. After the death of his mother in 1883 he and his three sisters operated the farm together for three years, and at the end of that time he purchased his sisters' interest and has been the sole owner. In 1909 he built a modern eight-room house, with an addition for a wash-room, and equipped with modern conveniences, including a bath, hot water heat, hot and cold running water and electric lights. He also erected





JOHN N. KLEIN AND FAMILY.







a barn 40 by 62 feet, and now has the farm and buildings in excellent condition. He carries on general farming and is the only farmer in Highland Township raising Jersey cattle. So well has he succeeded that in two years he took the first prize at the county fair for improvement in this kind of stock. He is also a successful breeder of Chester White hogs and Percheron horses. In addition to this, he does considerable dairying. To his original 160 acres he has since added 40 lying across the road from his farm, has bought 240 acres in Glasgow Township, ten acres of woodland, and owns 160 acres in northern Minnesota, near the International Falls, in Koochiching County. Mr. Klein is a stockholder in the local telephone company and the Smithfield creamery. He has been a member of the town board for many years and assessor for five years, besides having served on the school board twelve years, from which it may be seen that he is not only active and successful in business, but is also a useful citizen willing to devote a part of his time to the public service. Fraternally he belongs to several orders, including the Woodmen, Samaritans and the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Klein was married in 1885 at Minneapolis to Elizabeth Bricher, daughter of John and Mary Bricher, her parents, natives respectively of Luxemburg and Bohemia, being early settlers in Wabasha County, where they followed farming. Mr. and Mrs. Klein have had eleven children, of whom eight are now living, namely: Frank, Joseph, Ernest, Ralph, Clarence, Adolph, Hazel and Lavina. Frank is assistant cashier in the Theilman Bank, and Clarence is a barber in Kellogg. Ralph enlisted for military service in the war with Germany. He was a member of the 28th Division of Infantry and was eight months in France, taking part in the actions in the Argonne sector and at St. Mihiel Hill. Frank also enlisted and was sent to Leavenworth and Camp Dodge, Iowa, where he served in the clerical department. The children who died were: Maggie, who was five years old; Mary, who died at the age of three, and Dorothy, who married Ed McGrath and died of influenza October 29, 1918. The family are members of the Catholic church.

**Nicholas Arendt**, in former years one of the best known and most popular citizens of Chester Township, where he owned and operated a good farm, was born at New Trier, Dakota County, Minn., January 6, 1871, son of Philip and Catherine (Ludowissi) Arendt. When quite young he moved with his parents to Belle Chester, where he attended district school. After beginning industrial life he worked a number of years for his father, then, in 1896, he started out for himself, renting 240 acres in section 17, Chester Township, where he farmed until 1901. He then moved on to the Philip Arendt farm of 160 acres, and having also secured 200 acres in section 7, engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which occupations he continued successfully until his death, which occurred November 28, 1914, as the result of an accident. On Friday morning, the day before, he was sweeping the bin-top of his grain elevator, when he accidentally stepped off. He fell 12 feet, striking on his abdomen across a joist. From the joist he fell another six feet on an automobile which was just below. The fall caused injuries from which he died at 2 a. m., Saturday. During the day he was conscious and told the circumstances of the accident, giving directions to his wife and children for taking care of the farm and his personal affairs. Funeral services were held Monday morning from St. Mary's Catholic church at Belvidere, Father Funke officiating, and interment was made in the church cemetery. A large throng of relatives and friends attended the last rites and followed his remains to the grave, the funeral being one of the largest ever held at Belle Chester. The entire community was shocked and saddened by this calamity, which had removed in so sudden and tragic a manner one of its most respected citizens. Mr. Arendt was ever ready to aid a good cause, either with his purse or through personal service, and his geniality, kindness and generosity had made him hosts of friends. His business interests were large and successfully conducted. He was vice president of the Peoples State Bank and the Farmers Elevator of Mazeppa, and in-



terested in many other undertakings, all of which profited by his support and counsel. In his death his family lost a kind and loving husband and father, the church a faithful member, and the general community one of its upbuilders and public spirited citizens. Mr. Arendt was married at Belle Chester, Minn., on November 24, 1896, to Bertha Reiland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Reiland. Her parents were natives of Germany who, on coming to the United States, settled first in Wisconsin, and afterwards in Rolling Stone, Winona County, Minn., in which vicinity they spent the remainder of their lives in farming. Both are now deceased, the mother dying first on March 29, 1893, the father on August 8, 1914, seven months after the death of Mr. Arendt. They had five children: Michael N., Margaret, Anna, Mary and Bertha. To Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Arendt ten children were born, as follows: Martha K., June 12, 1898; Philip J., February 4, 1900; Edmond S., January 1, 1902; Hedwig A., March 8, 1903; Lawrence M., August 28, 1904; Walter P., June 23, 1906; Clarence H., November 13, 1907; Clemens J., July 1, 1910; Leonard P., December 2, 1912; and Christine H., August 19, 1915.

**Nicholas J. Almeter**, head of the firm of N. J. Almeter & Sons, of Mazeppa, engaged in general blacksmithing, and also operating a garage and handling auto cars, was born in Sheldon, Wyoming County, N. Y., September 28, 1859. His parents were Frank and Mary (Clemens) Almeter, both of whom were born in Belgium. The father, who was a blacksmith, died in April, 1870, and the mother in 1874. They had seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Another, Kate, who became the wife of Jake Steffen of Buffalo, N. Y., is also deceased. Those now living are: John, residing in Portland, Ore.; Louis F., of Los Angeles, Calif.; George F., of Texarkana, Ark.; Lena, wife of Mike Curry, of Rogers, Minn.; and Nicholas J., of Mazeppa. Nicholas J. Almeter remained in New York State until he was 19 years old, and there acquired his education. He then came to Minnesota, locating in Goodhue County, where he followed the blacksmiths' trade. In 1884 he settled in Mazeppa, entering the employ of A. J. Taft, a blacksmith, whose partner he subsequently became. After the partnership had lasted six years, Mr. Almeter bought Mr. Taft's interest in the business, which he conducted alone until 1920. He then took his three sons into the firm and the business is now conducted under the name of N. J. Almeter & Sons. In addition to carrying on a general blacksmith business and operating a garage, the firm handles Ford cars and accessories, besides doing general repairing. Mr. Almeter has twice served as a member of the village council, and once as mayor or president of the village. He belongs fraternally to the United Workmen, and in religion is a Catholic. In June, 1887, he was united in marriage at Belle Chester, Minn., to Maggie Heber, daughter of Nicholas and Anna (Majerus) Heber, her parents being natives of Luxemburg. Of this union seven children have been born, of whom two, Clara and Albert, are deceased. The living are: Mary A., Frank N., John W., Louis L., and Helen. Frank and John each took part in the World War, Frank enlisting from Minnesota and serving 13 months in the United States and France. John served one year, taking part in the fighting in the Argonne Forest, France.

**Nie Rich**, proprietor of the old John Rich farm in section 20, Mazeppa Township, was born in Monroe County, Wis., August 7, 1869, son of John and Deborah (Boynton) Rich. The parents were native Americans, the father born in Maine and the mother in Pennsylvania. In the early sixties they migrated west to Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming and resided until 1875. They then settled in Olmsted County, Minn., but remained there a very short time, as in the same year they came to Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, buying 50 acres of land in section 20. Here they made their home, John Rich erecting a set of buildings and clearing and cultivating the land. He died on the farm in 1911 and his wife in 1916. They were among the early settlers in the township and during their long career as residents here made numerous friends and acquaintances. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.





JOHN RICH AND FAMILY







Their children were Elsie, Nie, Florence and John. Nie Rich, who was educated in the district school, at an early age became active on his parents' farm, where, in his boyhood, there was abundant work for him to do. He remained associated with his father until 1893, and then started in for himself by renting a farm in Goodhue County, which he operated for five years. In 1898, having through industry and economy made some financial progress, he bought 80 acres in section 18, Mazeppa Township, on which tract he erected all the buildings except the house; and in 1917 he brought the area of his farm up to 182 acres by the purchase of the old home farm of his parents, containing 50 acres in section 20. His place is well improved and he is doing a successful business as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church and with the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen of America. On November 22, 1894, Mr. Rich was united in marriage with Ida Ingham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ingham. Her parents are now deceased, the father dying in 1910 and the mother about 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Rich have had the unusual experience of becoming the parents of triplets—Doctor R., Dennis A. and Darrel J.—who were born April 24, 1903. They also have a daughter, Olive M., who was born June 28, 1906. All the children are residing at home.

**Alexander Goetsch**, an active and progressive farmer and town treasurer of Mazeppa Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, March 18, 1882, son of August and Mary (Piel) Goetsch. He was still a babe when in 1884 he accompanied his parents to the United States. The family first settled at Watertown, Wis., but after a short residence there came to Wabasha County, Minn., and began farming in Mazeppa Township, an occupation in which they continued here for the rest of their lives. Both died in 1909, well known and respected. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church. Their children were Otto, Anna, Robert, Paul, Magdalis, Regina and Alexander. Alexander Goetsch acquired his education in the district school, and when he was old enough began to make himself useful on his parents' farm. He worked for his father for several years, and then he and a brother took over the management of the farm, 40 acres of which his father deeded to him. He also bought 40 acres on his own account, and in 1914 another 80 acres. Later he bought ten acres of timber land, making in all 170 acres in section 20, Mazeppa Township. On this property he built a new barn and outbuildings, and is operating it with profitable results as a general farmer and stock raiser, breeding high grade hogs. For the last five years he has served as treasurer of his township and is now serving in his third year as chairman of the school board of his district. Mr. Goetsch was married July 9, 1918, to Hulda Kuehn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Kuehn of Mazeppa Township. Of this union has been born one child, Elena E., on May 18, 1919.

**Paul Goetsch**, proprietor of a farm of 185 acres in Mazeppa Township, was born in Pommern, Germany, February 11, 1875, son of August and Mary (Piel) Goetsch. He attended school for a while in his native land, and accompanied his parents to America in 1884, at the age of nine years. After a short residence in Wisconsin the family settled in Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, Minn., and here Paul attended district school and soon began helping on the farm. In time he became a useful assistant to his father, and was thus occupied until 1907. He then began farming on his own account, buying 125 acres in sections 21 and 28, and later by another purchase increased the area of his farm to 185 acres. He also erected all the present buildings, and has continued to carry on general farming, raising good stock. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery of Mazeppa and a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association of the same place. On July 27, 1910, Mr. Goetsch was married to Emma Nickel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Nickel of Mazeppa Township. The parents came to this locality from Germany in 1886, and were engaged in farming there until 1918, in which year Mrs. Nickel died. Since then Mr. Nickel has resided with his daughter, Mrs. Paul Goetsch. The chil-



dren in the Nickel family were Adolph, Emil, Mary, William and Emma. Those born to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Goetsch are: Severa E., July 17, 1911; Carl F., July 28, 1913; and Esther L., born August 2, 1916. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

**Fred Busse, Sr.**, a well known farmer and respected citizen of Mazeppa Township, was born in Posen, Germany, March 11, 1846. He was educated in his native land and, like all German youths, was obliged to serve in the army, in which he spent three and a half years, including service in the Franco-German war of 1870-71. In the following year, 1872, he emigrated to the United States and for one year was a resident of Wisconsin. In 1873 he settled in Olmsted County, Minn., where he spent 7 years, coming to Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, in 1880. Here he bought a farm of 175 acres in sections 17, 20 and 29, and has since made many valuable improvements on it. Besides clearing most of the land, he has erected fences, and a fine set of buildings, and has set out trees and a good orchard. He is engaged in general farming and is raising Shorthorn and full-blooded Swiss cattle, besides other good stock, and has taken rank among the prosperous farmers of his township, which he served two years as supervisor. He has also been a member of the school board of his district for 20 years. For 35 years he has been appraiser for the Rochester Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Busse has turned over the active management of his farm to his son, Leon, who operates it on shares. On June 8, 1879, Mr. Busse was united in marriage with Johanna Heimke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Heimke. Her parents, formerly residents of Wisconsin, are both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Busse are the parents of three children: Fred, Jr., born April 1, 1880, who is a farmer in Mazeppa Township; Ella, born October 9, 1881, who is now Mrs. John Larson and resides at Colorado Springs, Colo., and Leonhart, better known as "Leon," born March 16, 1883. "Leon" Busse was married June 10, 1913, to Ida Freise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gottfried Freise, prominent farmers of Goodhue County. To Mr. and Mrs. Leon Busse have been born four children: Lenora F., July 8, 1914; Hubert L., November 26, 1915; Norman F., April 10, 1917; and Erma M., October 14, 1919.

**Thomas F. Baker**, familiarly known as "Tom" Baker, for years a prominent representative of the farming industry in Mazeppa Township, but now living retired in Mazeppa village, was born at Farm Hill, Olmsted County, Minn., November 9, 1867, son of Stephen H. and Maria (Butterfield) Baker. The parents were natives of New York state who came to Minnesota in the early sixties and settled in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, taking a homestead of 160 acres which they proved up. Subsequently they sold that farm and located in Farm Hill, Olmsted County, where they were engaged in farming until the death of Mrs. Maria Baker on October 21, 1890. After that event Mr. Baker lived with his son, Tom, until his death, September 30, 1899. He was a man held in high regard for his public spirit and helpful qualities in the community, being always ready to aid a good cause, and for some years served as supervisor on the town board. He and his wife were affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. They had five children, Alonzo S., William G., Edwin S., Thomas F. and Carrie S., the last mentioned of whom is now deceased. "Tom" Baker was educated in the city of Rochester, attending the ward school, and being a pupil for one year in the high school. After that he worked for his father until 1891, in which year he rented a farm in Olmsted County, which he operated for five years. In 1896 Mr. Baker bought 160 acres in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, a farm which he greatly improved by the erection of a new set of buildings. He resided there engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1904, and then rented out the farm (which he afterwards sold), and moved to Zumbro Falls. In that village he lived for five years, engaged in the farm machinery business and also in buying cream. In 1909 Mr. Baker went to Montana, where he took a land claim and remained one year. Then returning to Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, he purchased his present farm









GEORGE NEI AND FAMILY.



of 360 acres in sections 5 and 6. This he improved by the erection of one of the best barns in Wabasha County, a cow barn 36 by 110 feet in ground dimensions, provided with the West Bend barn equipment. As a general farmer and dairyman Mr. Baker met with much success and accumulated a competence. He is now serving in his third year as a supervisor on the town board, and is a man of influence in the community. He belongs to the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. On November 24, 1890, Mr. Baker was united in marriage with Cora Morrissey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Morrissey. He and his wife have been the parents of 12 children, who were born as follows: Viola E., November 15, 1891; Fannie, August 12, 1893; Hattie, April 10, 1894; Floyd, August 23, 1897; Thomas, May 10, 1899; Cora and Clara (twins), June 14, 1902; Ethel, October 9, 1904; Julia and John (twins), June 1, 1906; Esther, August 30, 1907; and Stanley, June 25, 1910. Viola E., who became the wife of Truman Mack, died November 13, 1912. Fannie is now Mrs. Fred Knaup of Zumbro Township. Hattie is the wife of Ray Bowers. Thomas (Tommie) died when a little over a year old, on May 18, 1900. Ethel died at the age of four months and one day, on February 10, 1905. Floyd was drafted into the United States service October 21, 1918, but owing to the termination of the war soon after, saw no active service. James Morrissey, father of Mrs. Baker, was born in Canada and came to Minnesota in 1876, settling in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, where he resided until two years before his death. He died in Olmsted County May 1, 1889, and his wife, who was a native of Pennsylvania, on September 19, 1880. They were members of the Catholic church. They had three children: Cora, John and Clara.

George Nei, a retired farmer residing in Mazeppa Township, of which for a number of years he has been one of the leading citizens, having served not only in local office, but also as county commissioner, was born in Goodhue County, October 9, 1862, son of Peter and Catherine Nei. The parents were born in the Duchy of Luxemburg and came to America in the early fifties, settling in Goodhue County, Minn. There they spent the rest of their lives, Mrs. Nei dying in 1895 and Mr. Nei in 1900. They were members of the Catholic church. They had six children, the first born of whom, Lizzie, is now deceased. The others were John, George, Matthew, Anna and Peter. George Nei was educated in a district school in Goodhue County, and after beginning industrial life, worked for his father until 1888. His father then gave him 80 acres of land and a wagon and team, with which he was able to make a start for himself. In 1892 he bought 120 acres in sections 19 and 30, Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, and began to improve the place, erecting a new set of buildings and supplying some needed fencing. There he was actively engaged in diversified farming, including the raising of stock, until 1918, in which year he retired, renting the farm to his son-in-law, P. W. Clemens, but retaining his residence on it. During his active years as a farmer Mr. Nei became widely known as a man of ability and reliable character, and it was no surprise to his neighbors and acquaintances when in 1912 he was elected county commissioner from the Third District, in which office he served by virtue of successive re-elections for eight years. He was also for six years a supervisor of Mazeppa Township, was 16 years town assessor, and for 15 years served on the school board of District No. 76. In all these positions he justified the confidence of his fellow citizens, showing good business acumen and ready comprehension of the public needs. In religion he is a Catholic. Mr. Nei was married in 1888 to Lizzie Huberty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Huberty. Her parents were natives of Belgium who settled in Goodhue County, where the father is still living, the mother being now deceased. They had five children, John, Elizabeth, Katherine, Jacob and Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Nei are the parents of two children: Lena K., born September 20, 1888, now Mrs. Robert Seibert of Mazeppa Township, and Clara K., born May 31, 1890, who is the wife of W. P. Clemens and has two children, Donald George and Geneva Elizabeth.



**Gustave H. Nibbe**, a representative farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township, residing in section 34, was born in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, Minn., August 31, 1881, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Nibbe. The parents, natives of Germany, came to the United States when young, and made each other's acquaintance in New York state, being married in New York City. John Nibbe worked six or seven years as a farm laborer in New York state, without making any headway in the world, until, feeling the necessity of doing something to better his circumstances, he resolved to emigrate to the west. It was hard to find the means, as he was very poor, but in some way he scraped together the necessary amount to pay for the transportation of himself and family, and made his way to Goodhue County, Minn., where he settled. There his wife died December 23, 1888, when her son Gustave was seven years old, and Mr. Nibbe, still being in poor circumstances, Gustave was given a home by a neighbor, Peter Reincke, with whom he remained until he was 14. Up to that time and for about a year later he attended district school, making himself useful out of school hours. From the age of 14 to that of 22 he worked hard as a farm laborer. Then he started in for himself, renting the Merkins farm in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, which he operated for four years. In 1907 he moved to the Louis Juers farm in section 20, Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County, a farm of 200 acres. He was industrious and saving, and was gradually getting along in the world. In 1911 Mr. Nibbe bought his present farm—formerly known as the Grogan farm—of 240 acres in section 34, Mt. Pleasant Township, of which he now has 220 acres under the plow. He has improved the house, which is a two-story frame structure, and in addition to the original barn he has built a new one of modern construction, 40 by 72 by 16 feet, with a 9-foot basement under all for cattle and horses. It is provided with cement floors, and the James system of steel stanchions, refuse carrier and running water. He has also erected a double corn crib 18 by 22 by 8, with an 8-foot driveway, and other buildings. The farm, which is five and half miles southeast of Lake City, is very productive and well cultivated. Mr. Nibbe has eight fine work horses, with a full equipment of machinery, including a five-passenger Buick auto car. Formerly a Republican, he is now a member of the Non-partisan League. On June 9, 1905, Mr. Nibbe was united in marriage with Lena Luva, daughter of Peter and Adelia Meerkens of Mt. Pleasant Township, where she was born December 27, 1873. To him and his wife six children have been born: Melinda Elizabeth, November 29, 1906; Orlin John, December 28, 1907; Marvin Deidrich, April 13, 1912; Walter H., June 3, 1913; Roy Gustave, January 8, 1918; and Donald Emil, September 10, 1919. The family are members of the Lutheran church and of Trinity congregation in Gillford Township.

**Alfred J. Siewert**, proprietor of a successful general store at Oak Center, Gillford Township, is a good type of Wabasha County's enterprising business men. He was born on a farm in Goodhue County, Minn., October 4, 1892, son of Frederick and Adelheit (Oelers) Siewert. The parents were natives of Hanover, Germany, who emigrated to Minnesota in 1875, entering the state at Lake City, whence they went on to Goodhue County. There the father, Frederick Siewert, died on his farm January 6, 1917, and was survived by his wife, who is still living, being now 65 years old. They were the parents of 14 children, of whom seven are living, namely, William, Louise, Carl, Henry, George, Bertha and Alfred J. Alfred J. Siewert in his boyhood attended common school in Goodhue County and in 1911 was graduated from the Red Wing Business College. He remained on the parental homestead until 1911. In 1913 he engaged in mercantile business at Oak Center in partnership with Charles Kreitt, but after a short time their store was burned, which ended the partnership. On January 6, 1914, as sole proprietor, he opened his present store in a new stucco building which he had erected, beginning with an \$8,000 stock, and his subsequent career as a merchant has been one of continued advancement. In 1919 he bought and shipped fourteen thousand dollars worth of eggs alone, and he



is energetically and successfully pushing all branches of his business. He owns a beautiful modern home—a stucco building—at Oak Center, and also a farm of 280 acres and good buildings in the Township of West Albany, and in addition to these interests he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Packing Co. at Newport, Minn., the Oak Center Creamery Co., of which he was one of the organizers and has been treasurer since 1913; and is a member of the Oak Center Poultry Association, which he helped to organize for the purpose of increasing the interest in poultry raising, and which he has served as secretary and treasurer for three years. On February 23, 1914, Mr. Siewert was united in marriage with Sophia M. Buchholtz, who was born on a farm in Goodhue County, June 13, 1890, daughter of John and Mary Buchholtz. Mr. and Mrs. Siewert have two children: Violet, born November 26, 1915, and Bernard, born May 25, 1919. Mr. Siewert is a Republican in politics, though with independent tendencies. He has served Gillford Township two years as assessor, and is one of the live citizens of the township who are on the lookout, not only for their own advancement but for the general welfare of the community, ready to lend a hand to any good cause.

**Charles Meyer**, a prosperous young farmer of Gillford Township, who saw service at the front in the World War, was born in this township, June 2, 1892, son of Hans and Margaret (Volers) Meyer. The parents were born and married in Germany and came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, many years ago. They had three children born in Germany, John, Henry and Claus, and four born in this country, Louis, Charles, Sophia and William. Louis is now in Montana, and Sophia and William on the home farm in Gillford Township. Charles Meyer acquired his education in the common school. He was reared on his parents' farm, which he managed for some years up to 1916, after which he started in on his own account, renting the John Busch farm in Gillford Township. On May 27, 1918, he was drafted into the United States' service, was sent to Camp Lewis, Wash., where he trained for four weeks, and was assigned to Company C, 160th Infantry. Then followed four weeks at Camp Kearney, Calif. He left for overseas July 20, and after arriving on the other side was transferred to Co. B, No. 308, 77th Infantry Division. Within two weeks he was on the front in the Argonne, where he served until two days before the signing of the armistice. After spending four weeks in a hospital, he was assigned to service with a casualty company. He left for America March 27, 1919, and on his arrival in this country was sent to Camp Mills, and from there to Camp Grant, Illinois, where he was mustered out April 27, and returned home. At liberty to resume agricultural operations, Mr. Meyer bought 173 acres in sections 6 and 7, Gillford Township, the place having an old set of buildings. In 1920 he built a new barn, 38 by 90 feet, with a tile basement of 8 feet and modern equipment, accommodating 50 head of cattle and 10 horses. He is successfully breeding pure blooded Percheron horses, Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs and grade Shropshire sheep, and is a stockholder in the local creamery. The soil on his farm is productive, and with adequate buildings and a good operating equipment, he is making financial progress. Mr. Meyer was married September 24, 1919, to Anna, daughter of Peter and Catherine Luhmann of Gillford Township. He and his wife are members of the Lincoln congregation of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Meyer is a Republican.

**Wendelin Krismer**, a well known and highly respected citizen of Gillford Township, was born in the Austrian Tyrol, November 25, 1857, son of Anton and Johanna Krismer. The father was a carpenter by trade, and in 1867, when the subject of this sketch was ten years old, he, with his family, emigrated to America, settling on a farm in La Crosse County, Wisconsin, where they remained 14 years. They then sold the place and moved into La Crosse, where Anton Krismer followed his trade. Wendelin Krismer obtained most of the schooling he ever got in his native land. He followed the fortunes and shared



the experiences of his family until they moved to the city of La Crosse, and then came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, locating in the vicinity of Theilman. Having learned the carpenter's trade under his father, for two years he worked at it in this county, alternating it with work as a farm hand. In 1884 he went to Minneapolis, where he worked at his trade. While there he was married, September 11, 1883, to Veronica, daughter of Peter and Hilda Noll of Highland Township, Wabasha County, where she was born December 17, 1859. Mr. Krismer and his wife remained in Minneapolis until 1900, when they came to Wabasha County and took up their residence near Theilman, Mr. Krismer working at his trade until the fall, when they moved to the farm which they have since made their home, which he had purchased in the spring of that year. This farm at the time contained 160 acres, and is located in sections 25 and 26, Gillford Township. Mr. Krismer also owns 80 acres adjoining, and has 160 acres of his land under tillage, the rest being in pasture. There is a good set of buildings, including a frame house, a barn 36 by 80 by 14 feet, with a full stone basement for stock, and equipped with steel stanchions and mangers. The farm is well stocked with high grade Shorthorn cattle, as well as with a good grade of hogs and sheep, and general farming and dairying are carried on, Mr. Krismer milking from 18 to 20 cows, for which he has installed a modern double-unit milking machine. Mr. Krismer still works at his trade to a considerable extent, leaving the management of the farm to his three sons, Louis, William and Christian. He is clerk of the school board of his district, and is independent in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Krismer have had eight children: Henry J., born December 31, 1885; John P., August 21, 1886; Wendelin, Jr., September 21, 1887; Joseph A., April 15, 1890; Louis J.; William F., October 4, 1897; Christian P., September 6, 1899, and Mary P., October 3, 1901. Henry J., who is a carpenter in Lake City, married Cora Locher and they have five children: Marcella, Helen, Agnes, Jacob, and John. John P. the second child, died in infancy. Wendelin, Jr., is now a farmer in Gillford Township. He married Margaret Mason and has four children, Veronica, Cornelia, Florence and Robert. Joseph A. married Johanna Laqua and has three children, Adeline, Laurretta and Anastatia. The family live on a farm in Gillford Township. William F., Christian P. and Mary P. are as yet unmarried and are residing on the home farm. Louis J. served in the World War, being inducted into the U. S. military service May 28, 1918. He was sent first to Camp Lewis, Wash., thence to Camp Kearney, Calif., and after six weeks at the latter camp, to Camp Mills, L. I., where he received his overseas equipment. On August 7, 1918, he sailed for France, landed in England after 15 days and was sent to Le Havre, France, becoming a member of the "Sunshine Division," 145th Machine Gun Battery. After a little while he was transferred to the 116th Engineer Corps and served at Angers, France, until the armistice was signed. Then being transferred to the 20th Engineers, Forestry Corps, he served with that organization until May 3, 1919. On the seventeenth of May he sailed from Bordeaux for Hoboken, N. J., after landing went to Camp Merritt, N. J., and thence to Camp Dodge, Iowa, where he was mustered out June 9, 1919, reaching home on June 11. The Krismer family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Patrick's parish in West Albany Township. Peter and Hilda Noll, the parents of Mrs. Krismer, were both natives of Germany, the father born in 1824 and the mother in 1830. They came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, at a very early day, and were very poor at the time, but Mr. Noll finally, through hard work and perseverance, became the wealthiest farmer in Highland Township. Mrs. Hilda Noll died in 1871, being survived by her husband for 30 years, as his death occurred in 1901. Of their children there are living: Theresa, now Mrs. John Gessmer of Plainview; Mary, wife of Joseph Eiler of Bird Island, Minn.; Margaret, wife of Frank Deming of Plainview; Joseph of Big Stone, S. D., and Veronica. Those deceased are Henry, Peter, Anna, Adeline and Regina.









MR. AND MRS. FRED BUSSE, JR.



**Fred Busse, Jr.**, engaged in agriculture in Mazeppa Township, was born in Olmsted County, Minnesota, April 1, 1880, son of Fred and Johanna (Heimke) Busse. The father came to the United States from Germany in 1872, after service in the Franco-German war, and after a year's residence in Wisconsin, settled in Olmsted County, Minnesota, whence he came with his family to Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, in 1880. Since then he has been one of the township's most prominent farmers. Fred Busse, Jr., was a babe when he was brought by his parents to this township. His education was acquired in the district school, and he subsequently worked for his father until 1904. He then began farming for himself, buying 20 acres in section 19, Mazeppa Township, and on his land erected a set of buildings. He later bought 15 acres more, thus bringing his farm up to an area of 35 acres, on which he is raising pure-bred Duroc-Jersey hogs, high grade Durham cattle, full-blood Rose Comb and Brown Leghorn chickens, and Bourbon Red Turkeys. Mr. Busse is also manager of the Mazeppa Live Stock Shipping Association, to which position he was elected in 1917, and is also secretary of the Mazeppa Creamery. For the last 14 years he has held the office of town clerk, and for 16 years has been a member of the school board of District No. 76. He is fraternally affiliated with the Masonic Order. On August 22, 1905, Mr. Busse was united in marriage with Edna Mack, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mack of Mazeppa, where Mrs. Mack now resides, the husband and father being deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Mack were the parents of three children, Fred, Edna and Lottie. To Mr. and Mrs. Busse five children have been born: Leona J., October 25, 1906; Ruth H., July 6, 1908; Manley M., April 8, 1911; Freda E., September 18, 1912, and Lottie L., January 30, 1915.

**Dick Klindworth**, one of the self-made farmers of Gillford Township, who started poor and is now well off, was born in Hanover, Germany, October 3, 1869, son of Herman and Anna Klindworth. The parents never came to America, the mother dying when the subject of this sketch was a child. He attended common school in Germany and at the age of 16 came to Minnesota, locating in Goodhue County, where he had a sister already living. There he attended school for six months, and for four years worked as a farm hand. He also learned the carpenter's trade with John Oelkers and worked at it until 1898. In that year, which was the year of his marriage, he bought a farm of 80 acres in section 4, Gillford Township, Wabasha County. The place was but slightly improved, there being only a small shack for a residence and no barns. Through his own exertions he now owns 168 acres, all under the plow, and he has a good set of buildings, including two good barns, a tool shed, granary, corn cribs, garage and silo, the garage having been erected to shelter his Ford car. His farm is now in good shape and he has a complete equipment, including all necessary machinery. As a general farmer he is making good progress, being successful in crop raising and in the breeding of grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine. His farm is situated nine miles southwest of Lake City, which is his usual market. In politics he is independent. Mr. Klindworth was married September 4, 1898, to Katherine Marion, daughter of Diedrich and Margaret Dankers. She was born in Germany April 29, 1876, and came to the United States with her parents at the age of three years, the family settling in Mt. Pleasant Township. Mr. and Mrs. Klindworth have had five children, all residing at home, namely: Alfred Henry, born June 8, 1902; Edna Margaret, born February 19, 1905; Esther Johanna, born January 12, 1907, who died March 30, the same year; Frederick Herman, born May 5, 1910, and Wilbert Otto, born June 1, 1916. The family are members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church (known as the Lincoln Congregation), of which Mr. Klindworth has been a trustee and the treasurer for the last seven years.

**Henry L. Hoops**, a prosperous citizen of Gillford Township, engaged in agriculture, was born in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, Minn., November 20, 1873, son of Hans and Mary (Clare) Hoops. The father, Hans Hoops,



was also a native of Hanover, Germany, born April 20, 1847. He came to the United States at the age of twenty, locating first in Osakee County, Wis., where he remained two years. He then came to Goodhue County, Minnesota, where on March 13, 1872, he was married to Mary Clare, who was born in Hanover, Germany, April 14, 1853. In Goodhue County Hans Hoops engaged in farming, which he carried on there for 23 years. He then moved to Gillford Township, Wabasha County, where he took a farm on which he lived until 1908, when he retired and moved to Lake City. He and his wife had three children: Henry L., subject of this sketch; Martha, now Mrs. Charles McCroden of Lake City; and one who died in infancy. Henry L. Hoops acquired his education in the district school in Goodhue County, and remained with his parents until 1897. On September 15, that year, he married Julia Burfiend, who was born in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, July 3, 1877, daughter of Henry and Lena Burfiend. At the same time he bought 80 acres of his father's farm in section 3, Gillford Township, and started in for himself. His father had erected a good set of buildings, which he still uses, and include the following: a barn 40 by 68 feet, with a stone basement 8½ feet; a tool shed 16 by 40; granary 28 by 40 by 12; poultry house 16 by 24; tile silo 14 by 41, and a steel windmill. Mr. Hoops has enlarged the area of his farm and now operates 160 acres at his original location, where he resides, and 100 acres more on the Schafer farm, or 260 acres in all. With a good equipment he follows general farming, breeding grade Shorthorn cattle, having a pure blooded sire, and Poland-China swine. He is enjoying a prosperous career and is a stockholder in the Oak Center Creamery, the Farmers' Elevator at Lake City and the Terminal Packing Plant at Newport, and is a member of the Lake City and Zumbro Falls Shipping Association. Politically he is a Republican. He and his wife were parents of seven children, who were born as follows: Amanda M., June 22, 1898; Fritz H., December 10, 1899; Albert H., December 19, 1901; Henry, September 11, 1903; Ena I., May 23, 1906; Emory W., September 18, 1908; and Chester M., December 4, 1911. The mother, Mrs. Julia Hoops, died February 11, 1913. On May 14, 1920, the daughter, Amanda M., was married to William Tiedemann of Gillford Township. Mr. Hoops and his children are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Trinity church, known as the Lincoln congregation.

**George La Mont**, engaged in farming in section 4, Gillford Township, was born in Hyde Park Township, Wabasha County, February 14, 1877, son of Scott and Emeline (Heath) La Mont. The father was born in New York State March 28, 1848, and came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1857, becoming a farmer in Hyde Park Township. About 1881 he began buying grain, having a warehouse at Jarretts, but later operating at Millville to about 1900, when he retired and took up his residence at Park Rapids, Hubbard County, Minn., where he died July 20, 1914. He was married December 24, 1870, to Emeline Heath, who was born in Pennsylvania, May 12, 1848, and who came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, with her parents in 1859, the family making the journey in the old style of wagon used by early emigrants, having a high canvas top as protection from the weather, and known as a "prairie schooner." Mrs. Scott La Mont died at Park Rapids, Minn., four years before her husband, on February 13, 1910. They were both active in church work, and Mr. La Mont was politically a Republican. Their children were: Gertrude A., who married J. D. Haradon of Park Rapids, and is now deceased; Arvilla Grace, also deceased, who married Herbert Elson, an English missionary, and went with him to Morocco, Africa; George, of Gillford Township; Laura Ella, deceased; and William Scott, a cashier in the employ of the M. & I. Railway, stationed at Bemidji, Minn. George La Mont entered upon the path of knowledge in a district school in Hyde Park Township, subsequently attended school in Wabasha two years, and later took a two years' course—from 1894 to 1896—in the agricultural college at St. Paul. From an early age until he was fourteen he resided with his grandfather, and for the next six years worked as a farm hand. Beginning



independent farming in 1903, he was thus occupied for five years in Hyde Park Township. In 1908 he bought his present farm in Gillford Township, section 4, all of it being improved land and one of the best farms in this section. Mr. La Mont has added to the buildings, having erected a barn 30 by 56 by 16 feet, in which he has modern equipment, including the Perfection milking machine, a tool shed, silo and other structures. He has also installed on his farm an individual Lally farm lighting plant, which furnishes light for his residence, barn, outbuildings and yard. He carries on diversified farming, his stock consisting chiefly of grade Holstein cattle and Chester White hogs, and his equipment in tools and machinery is ample and up to date. In his herd of pure bred Holsteins are from 14 to 20 milch cows. Mr. La Mont is president of the Gillford Farmers' Insurance Company, a member of the Lake City and Zumbro Falls Shipping Association, secretary of the Oak Center Creamery, and a member of the Farmers' Elevator at Lake City, the Terminal Packing Plant at Newport, the Farmers' Co-operative Milling Co. of Lake City and the Wabasha County Leader. Politically a Republican, he has served four years as town assessor. Mr. La Mont was married March 16, 1897, to Alice E. Walters, who was born in Gillford Township, October 16, 1876, daughter of Edwin R. and Mary J. Walters. Three children have come to enlarge his home circle: Ada Laura, born April 4, 1899; Edwin S., born July 5, 1901; and Ina M., May 31, 1910. Ada Laura is now the wife of George Pinson, a farmer of Saskatchewan, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. La Mont have a good social standing in Gillford Township, and attend and help to support the Methodist Episcopal church of Oak Center.

**John O'Brien**, in former years well known in Lake City as a successful farmer and stock raiser in this vicinity, was born in St. Lawrence County, New York, November 3, 1837, son of John and Jane O'Brien. The parents were natives of Ireland, and although of the same family name, were not related to each other save by their marriage, which took place in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. There they settled down on a farm, on which they resided many years, John O'Brien, Sr., dying in 1880. He was survived by his wife, who finally followed him to the other world. They were the parents of nine children, of whom five are now living. John O'Brien, Jr., the subject of this sketch, received a good common school education, as well as a thorough training in the principles of economy and thrift during his early youth on the farm. In the spring of 1857 he came to Lake City, Minnesota, where he followed his trade—that of mason—for three years. At the end of that time he bought a farm of 160 acres of government land in Lake Township and engaged in agriculture. In the same year he married Miss Hannah Mahony. After ten years' residence on that farm, Mr. O'Brien purchased a smaller one in Lake City and removed to town, where his wife died in February, 1871. His second marriage was in February, 1874, to Mrs. Sarah Failing, formerly Miss Sarah Munger, a native of Syracuse, New York. Mr. O'Brien's end came suddenly, on Monday, July 11, 1898. On the previous Friday he had been seen on the street, and that morning he had been feeling so well that he concluded to go out to the farm, as was his usual custom. He accordingly did so, but got overheated, and did not feel so well on Saturday. On Sunday he remained home from church, which was a very unusual thing for him to do; but on Monday morning he felt so much better that he began making preparations to go out to the farm, but while in the barn began to feel ill again and went to the house. For a few minutes he recovered, and then the symptoms recurred. A doctor was sent for, and after telling the doctor how he felt, while the doctor was preparing some medicine, Mr. O'Brien threw up his hands with a gasp and passed away. He was recognized as one of the leading farmers of Wabasha County, was strictly honest, always doing as he would be done by, and never allowed an opportunity to pass to do a kind act to a fellow being. His death was a great shock to his family and friends. He was a devoted Catholic and died happy in that faith, and a



large concourse of friends followed his remains to their final resting place. Mr. O'Brien was the father of seven children, of whom six were by his first wife, namely: Mary J., who married John Steel of La Crosse, Wis.; J. Sylvester, Frank M., and James R., who are farmers in Mt. Pleasant Township, and Catharine B. By his second wife he had one son, George A. In addition to his farm within the city limits, Mr. O'Brien owned a fine farm of 620 acres in Lake and Mt. Pleasant Townships. In politics he was independent, supporting the man rather than the party.

**John Sylvester and Frank Michael O'Brien**, who, under the style of O'Brien Brothers, are conducting an extensive farming business in Mt. Pleasant Township, were born in section 18, Lake Township, John Sylvester on December 3, 1860, and Frank on December 15, 1863. They are sons of John and Hannah (Mahoney) O'Brien, who came to Lake City in 1868. There John S. and Frank M. attended school, Lake City being their home until 1880. In the meanwhile their father had purchased and begun the operation of a farm in sections 13 and 24, Mt. Pleasant Township, on which the two brothers took up their residence on completing their schooling. In 1898 they formed a partnership with their brother James to operate the farm, and the three brothers were associated together for several years. Then James withdrew and John S. and Frank have since continued the business together, from time to time enlarging their sphere of action as they became more and more prosperous. They now own and operate 378 acres in Mt. Pleasant Township, also 240 acres adjoining in Lake Township, having 420 acres under the plow. In addition to the above mentioned property, they own a 200-acre farm in section 26, Mt. Pleasant Township, which they rent out. On the Mt. Pleasant farm operated by themselves is a good set of buildings, including a two-story frame house, a frame barn 46 by 70 by 18 feet, with a full stone basement of eight feet, a tool shed, poultry house, wagon shed, sheep house and granary, all good substantial buildings, and the land is well cultivated and productive. They are doing general farming and stock raising, their stock consisting of Shorthorn cattle, Duroc-Red hogs and Shropshire sheep, of which they have 100 ewes. For each herd they have full-blooded sires. Of cattle and sheep they ship annually one car load of each to the Chicago and St. Paul markets. Their 200-acre farm, which they rent, has 180 acres under the plow, and is in a good state of cultivation. It also has good buildings, the house being a two-story frame; the barn measuring 20 by 30 by 16 feet, and the other out-buildings including a granary, tool shed, wagon shed, and a shop, woodshed and summer kitchen combined. Industrious and capable, the O'Brien Brothers have taken rank among the most prosperous farmers of their township. Politically they are Democrats, and John S. has served as township treasurer for seven years, also for some years as a member of the school board. As yet he has not married. Frank O'Brien was married in 1909 to Elizabeth, daughter of Maurice Schaffer of Goodhue County. She died a little more than a year after her marriage, and the household is now presided over by Catherine O'Brien, a sister of John and Frank. Their mother died in 1871 and the father, who subsequently remarried, died in 1898. The family are Catholics in religion and members of St. Mary's parish at Lake City. They are people of wide acquaintance and are doing a valuable work in developing the agricultural resources of their locality, thus contributing materially to the aggregate wealth of the county in its most important industry.

**Andrew Boss**, an early settler in Gillford Township, and at one time one of the leading citizens of Wabasha County, was born in Kinross, Scotland, July 6, 1835, and came to America at the age of 17 years. For two years he remained in New York City, being employed as clerk in a drug store. He then came west and at Janesville, Wis., about 1859, he met and married Jeanette Nesbit. In 1863 Mr. Boss came with his wife to Wabasha County, Minnesota, buying a homestead claim on section 15, Gillford Township. The place was but slightly improved, only a small part of the land being broken, the house





MR. AND MRS. ANDREW BOSS













DEDRICH REINCKE AND FAMILY.



being a shack, and straw sheds in use as a substitute for stables. Mr. Bôss at once started to develop a good farm, erecting a substantial house and other buildings. He worked hard, made good progress, and was very successful as a farmer. For a long period he served as town clerk, and in time acquired such local popularity that he was elected to the state legislature, in which he served for two years, in politics being a Democrat. He died on the farm August 22, 1897, and was survived by his wife, who passed away in 1905, also on the old homestead. Their children were as follows: Marcia, now Mrs. A. H. Lamb of Oak Center; Jean, wife of J. E. Knight of Sherwood, Ore.; Andrew, an instructor in the Minnesota Agricultural College at St. Paul; William, who holds a similar position there; Bessie, deceased, who was the wife of E. M. Anding of Dumont, Minn.; James, of Zumbro Falls, Minn.; Alexander, of Sherwood, Ore.; David, now proprietor of the old home farm in Gillford Township; John, who is deceased, and two others who died in infancy.

**James Boss**, a prosperous farmer residing in section 31, Gillford Township, was born in this township, October 12, 1876, son of Andrew and Jeanette (Nesbit) Boss. He acquired his education in the school of district 88, and subsequently for one year attended the Minnesota Agricultural College. He remained on the home farm until the spring of 1896, and the summer and fall of that year he spent in Crookston, Minn., working on the State Experimental Farm. Then returning to Wabasha County, he remained on the home farm until 1901. That fall he began farming for himself on a rented farm at Oak Center, where he remained two years. He then bought an 80-acre farm in Gillford Township which he operated three years, and then sold, at the end of that time renting a farm of 260 acres in Gillford Township adjoining the old homestead. His next move was to Zumbro Falls, where he lived for two years employed as rural mail carrier. In 1913 Mr. Boss bought his present farm of 120 acres in section 31, Gillford Township, adjoining the village of Zumbro Falls, it being an old improved farm with a good house and other buildings, and he has since been profitably engaged in its operation. He has 108 acres under the plow, has a good tile silo, and an adequate equipment, and does general farming. His stock consists of grade Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs and Shropshire sheep. In addition to his work on the farm, for the last five years he has been manager of the Farmers' Shipping Association of Zumbro Falls. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Co., the Zumbro Falls Telephone Co., and the Farmers Co-operative Creamery of Zumbro Falls. Mr. Boss was married October 29, 1901, to Media Ann Claflin, who was born in Big Stone, Minn., April 5, 1883, daughter of William H. and Adda M. Claflin of Zumbro Falls. Her parents, who were among the early settlers in Gillford Township, are now living at Sweet Briar, N. D. Mr. and Mrs. Boss are the parents of two children: Beth May, born November 29, 1903, who is attending Zumbro Falls high school; and Clifford James, born November 20, 1907, who is a student in the seventh grade of the common school.

**Dedrick Reincke**, better known as "Dick," the owner and operator of a good farm of 160 acres in Gillford Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, August 13, 1875, son of Herman and Catherine Reincke. About six years after his birth his parents emigrated to Minnesota, settling in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, where they engaged in farming. Both are now deceased, the mother having passed away October 8, 1901, at the age of 69 years, and the father in the spring of 1911, at the age of 76. His parents being poor, Dedrick Reincke had to begin work at an early age, but attended district school in Belvidere, as he had opportunity, up to the age of 14 years. Since boyhood he has supported himself. On June 11, 1902, he was married to Mary H. Dose, who was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, October 8, 1884, daughter of Frederick and Margaret Dose. In the same year he began farming on his own account, renting the Fred Laqua farm in West Albany Township, Wabasha County. In the fall of 1904 he removed to the E. C. McCall farm on section 8, Gillford Town-



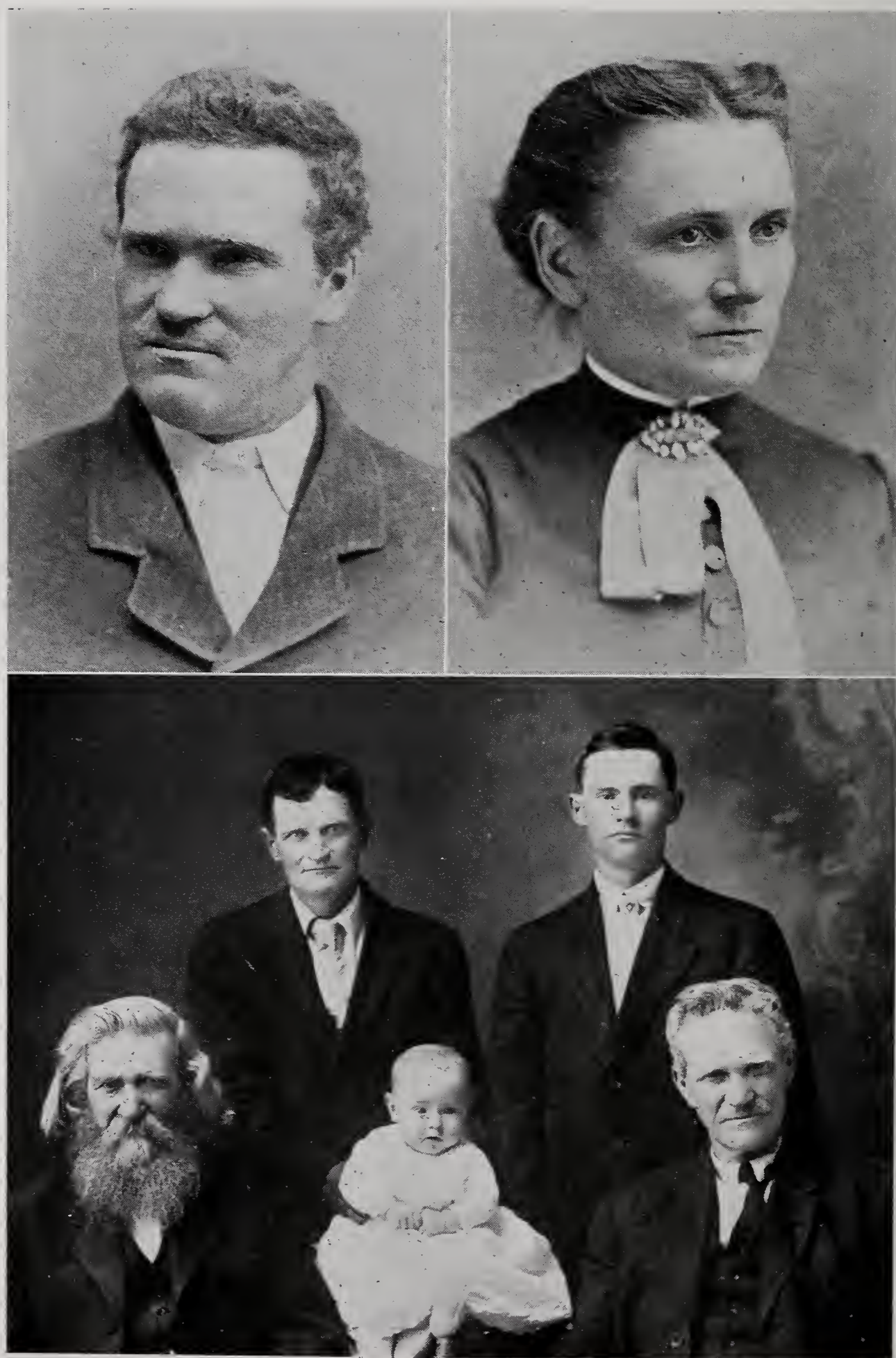
ship, which he operated under rental for nine years, buying it in 1912, and it has since remained his home. It is situated on section 8, and contains 160 acres, all tillable. When he took possession it had a fair set of buildings, but finding them inadequate, he has since erected others, including a barn 44 by 66 by 16 feet, with a full tile basement of 9 feet; a machine shed 24 by 60, a poultry house 14 by 36 by 8, and a steel windmill. He is engaged successfully in general farming, raising both grain and stock, his farm being well stocked with grade cattle and hogs. It is ten miles southwest of Lake City, which is his usual market. In addition to his direct farming interests, Mr. Reincke is a stockholder in the Oak Center Creamery, the Farmers' Elevator at Lake City, and St. John's Hospital of Red Wing; and is a member of the Shipping Associations at Lake City and Zumbro Falls, and secretary and treasurer of the Gillford Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He has rendered some public service as clerk of school district No. 15. Mr. and Mrs. Reincke have been the parents of six children, of whom five are now living, the record, in brief, being as follows: Alvin H., born May 12, 1905; Verna A., born August 16, 1908; Frederick E., born August 23, 1910, who died January 19, 1913; Wilbur A., born March 31, 1913; Thelma M., born January 25, 1915; and Linnea C., born January 6, 1917. Mr. Reincke and his family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, commonly known as the "Lincoln Church," of Gillford Township.

**Augustus H. Lamb**, an active and prosperous farmer of Gillford Township, was born in this township July 6, 1862, son of Ezra G. and Laura J. (Wilson) Lamb. The parents were pioneers of the township, arriving in 1860 and subsequently developing a farm. August H. was reared on his parents' farm, on which he has always resided, and is now the owner. The farm is now one of the best in the township, and has been improved considerably by the subject of this sketch, who has built a good barn, tool sheds, granary and other buildings. He carries on diversified farming, raising high grade Shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep and Duroc-Jersey hogs. His operating equipment is modern and complete and includes two good auto cars. Among his herd are 16 milch cows, and he has installed on his farm two double-unit milking-machines. Mr. Lamb served for a number of years as a member of the school board of district No. 70. In politics he is a Republican with independent tendencies. Mr. Lamb was married December 4, 1884, to Marcia Boss, daughter of Andrew and Jeanette Boss of Gillford Township. She was born at La Prairie, Wis., June 17, 1863, and accompanied her parents to Lake City, Wabasha County, when she was six months old, they subsequently settling on a farm in Gillford Township. To Mr. and Mrs. Lamb were born five children: Eva, April 6, 1887; Harvey, April 6, 1890; John, November 18, 1892; Chester, July 12, 1895; and Gertrude, February 17, 1900. Eva, who is a graduate of the normal course in the Lake City high school and also of the Minnesota Agricultural school, has been a teacher for the past seven years. Harvey is a farmer in Gillford Township. John, a graduate of the Lake City high school, is assistant cashier of the Lake City Bank of Minnesota. Chester, who is now with his father on the home farm, was a pupil for one year in the Lake City high school, and also for a year in the Minnesota Agricultural School. On September 19, 1918, he volunteered to serve in the World War, and was sent to Minneapolis, where he trained as auto mechanic in the Dunwoody Institute. He finished the course two days before the signing of the armistice and was discharged at Minneapolis, December 12, 1918. Gertrude is a graduate of the Lake City high school; she studied for one year in the Winona Normal school and is now a teacher. Mr. Lamb and his family attend and help to support the Methodist Episcopal church. In addition to his direct farming interests Mr. Lamb is a stockholder in the Oak Center Creamery, of which he was a director for one year; also in the Farmers' Elevator at Zumbro Falls, and in the Zumbro Falls Telephone Company, being a director in the latter. He and his family are among the most respected residents of Gillford Township.









MR. AND MRS. EUGENE ADAMS, ROBERT C. ADAMS; FIVE GENERATIONS



**Ezra G. Lamb**, one of the early settlers of Gillford Township who did pioneer work in developing a farm from the wilderness, was born in Vermont, August 28, 1820. He was married in the same state in 1841 to Laura J. Wilson, and in 1860 came with his family to Wabasha County, Minnesota. Here he arrived with but little means, but began farming in Gillford Township, he and his family living in a log house. He developed a farm of 160 acres in section 7, which farm is still in the family, being now the property of his son August. With the help of his sons Mr. Lamb brought his property into good condition, building a comfortable frame house and other buildings. He was successful as a farmer and was respected and esteemed as a man and a citizen. Politically a Republican, he had served while living in Pennsylvania in several local offices, but here took no active part in local affairs. He and his wife spent the rest of their lives on their farm, Mrs. Lamb dying September 26, 1914, and Mr. Lamb December 29, 1905. They were the parents of six children: Erastus, Lovina, Thaddeus, Julius, Gould and Augustus H. Erastus, who served in the Civil War, suffered hardships in the army which left him in poor health for the rest of his life and is now deceased. Lovina and Thaddeus are also dead. Julius is living at Monrovia, Calif., Gould is in Lake City, Minn., and Augustus H. is on the old home farm in Gillford Township, Wabasha County.

**Leroy W. Adams**, who has been established for a number of years as a general farmer and stock raiser in Zumbro Township, was born in this township, September 2, 1870, son of Eugene and Victoria (Hammons) Adams. The father was a native of the state of Maine, who came to Wabasha County with his parents, Robert L. and Mary Adams, at an early day, and who was married to Victoria Hammons in 1869. Her parents were pioneer settlers here also, and it was in honor of Mr. Hammons that the village of Hammond was named, with a change in the final letter of the name. The parents of the subject of this sketch are now living retired in Zumbro Township after a prosperous career in agriculture. Leroy W. Adams acquired his education in the district school and gained a knowledge of agriculture on his parents' farm, continuing as his father's assistant until 1891. He then began an independent career, buying a farm of 80 acres in section 14, Zumbro Township, which farm, however, he sold in 1893. Later he bought his present farm of 120 acres, of which 80 lie in section 13 and 40 in section 14. He has improved the place by the erection of buildings and fences, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising with good success. Mr. Adams has been twice married: first on May 11, 1891, to Lesie Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Welcome Anderson. She died April 5, 1892.

**Alfred Klindworth**, a member of the firm of Klindworth Bros., hardware dealers and garage proprietors, of Zumbro Falls, was born in Chester Township, this county, August 26, 1893, son of Claus and Katherine Klindworth. The first 22 years of his life was spent on his parents' farm, and his education was acquired in the district school. At the age of 22 he came to Zumbro Falls and entered the employ of Gray & Klindworth, the latter member of the concern being his brother John. After three years he bought Mr. Gray's interest and became his brother's partner, the name of the firm at the same time being changed to Klindworth Bros. They do a profitable business in hardware, also selling auto cars and tractors, and running a repair shop in connection with their garage. Alfred Klindworth was married in 1915, in Gillford, Wabasha County, to Evas M. Gerken, daughter of John and Katherine (Heitman) Gerken. Her parents were farmers, the father being a native of Massachusetts and the mother of Germany. They had six sons and three daughters: Richard, Alfred, John, Henry, Frederick, Clarence, Evas, Lorena and Anna. The two latter are now residing in Lake City with the parents. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Klindworth have two children, Roderick and Lois.

**Eugene W. Adams**, an early settler in Zumbro Township, where he is now living retired after a long and successful career in agriculture, was born in



the state of Maine, August 16, 1852, son of Robert L. and Mary (Dow) Adams. The parents were natives of the same state, who came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, at an early day, settling on 80 acres of land in Zumbro Township. Later they bought 80 more, which gave them a farm of 160 acres in section 34. Some of this land Robert C. Adams cleared, also erecting a set of buildings, and was engaged in general farming there until 1890, when he retired and took up his residence at Zumbro Falls, where he died August 5, 1917. His wife is now residing with her son Eugene. They had twelve children, of whom six are now living, namely: Walter, Margaret, Laura, Mary, Hannah and Eugene. The family are religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Eugene W. Adams was educated in the district school and worked for his father until 1869. He then bought 80 acres in Olmsted County, erected some buildings, and operated the place for ten years, at the end of which time he sold it. In 1879 he bought 160 acres in section 7, Zumbro Township, a place on which also he lived for ten years, or until 1889. He then bought 140 acres in section 7, and 120 in section 13. He erected buildings, increased the area of his farm to 340 acres, and was engaged in general farming until 1914, when he retired. His sons Le Roy and Ralph now operate the farm, on which he, himself, is still residing. For 15 years he served as a member of the school board. Mr. Adams was married March 19, 1869, to Victoria Hammons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hammons. Her parents were natives of Maine who were among the pioneer settlers of Wabasha County, arriving here in the early fifties, and it was in honor of Mr. Hammons that the village of Hammond was named. He was engaged in truck farming and also followed the occupation of carpenter. He died April 15, 1897, and his wife on April 4, 1898. They had but one child, Victoria, who, as above mentioned, became the wife of Eugene W. Adams. To Mr. and Mrs. Adams three children were born: Le Roy, September 2, 1870; Ralph J., January 4, 1872, and Charles V., April 30, 1873. The last mentioned died August 21, the year of his birth. Mr. and Mrs. Adams had also an adopted son, named Glenn, who was born April 5, 1892, and who lived with them until 21 years old.

**Otto Goetsch**, a representative of a family that has been engaged for a number of years in agricultural development in Mazeppa Township, and who is himself an active and successful farmer, was born in Pommern, Germany, November 25, 1870, son of August and Mary (Piel) Goetsch. He was educated in his native land and came to America with his parents in 1884, the family, after a brief residence in Wisconsin, settling on a farm in Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Until 1907 Otto worked for his father, and the latter then deeded to him 160 acres of land in section 29, which is the old home farm. He has improved his property by the erection of a new barn and outbuildings, and is planning the erection of a new residence. As a general farmer and stock raiser he is meeting with success and is making financial progress. He is a director in the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa and in the Farmers' Shipping Association of the same place. Mr. Goetsch was first married, June 30, 1913, to Anna Summerfield of Mazeppa Township. She died December 9, 1917, leaving one child, Celia, who was born June 16, 1916. On April 28, 1920, Mr. Goetsch married Elise Ploenert, a native of Germany, who came to this country a few years ago. Her father died in 1901 and her mother still resides in Germany. Mr. Goetsch and his family are members of the "Popples Grove" congregation of the German Lutheran church.

**Burton W. Disney**, cashier of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Zumbro Falls, and an enterprising citizen of that village, was born on a farm in Gillford Township, Wabasha County, October 5, 1874, son of William J. and Sara (Ward) Disney, elsewhere mentioned in this volume. He was educated in the district school and the Joliet (Ill.) public school, making his home in Joliet with his aunt, Mrs. Bowen; also at the Darling's Business College, Rochester, Minn. He worked on the home farm until the family moved to town,



and after that worked for others at farm work for two years. Subsequently he was engaged with his father and brothers in the stock buying business, also in the lumber business and the operation of a hardware store. On the organization of the Zumbro Falls State Bank on June 6, 1907 (the name of which was changed April 21, 1920, to the Farmers and Merchants State Bank) he was offered and accepted the position of cashier, in which he has since served efficiently, proving popular with the patrons of the institution. For ten years he has been village recorder, and served one term as village treasurer. He is a member of Tyrian Lodge No. 86, A. F. & A. M., of Mazeppa; Lake City Commandery No. 6, K. T.; and Osmund Temple, A. A. O. M. N. S., of St. Paul. His career has been one of industry, wisely directed, and he has proved an asset to the village in which for a number of years he has made his home. Mr. Disney assumed the responsibilities of domestic life on November 5, 1902, when he was united in marriage with Ethel V. Drinkwalter, daughter of Pratt and Lena Drinkwalter, of Zumbro Falls, who were early settlers in Wabasha County. Mrs. Disney's father was born in Newark, Wayne County, N. Y., and her mother in Wabasha County, the former being engaged in farming until his death in 1914. Mrs. Drinkwalter is still living, being a resident of Zumbro Falls. They had four children: Ethel, Laura, May and Howard, all of whom are now living. To Mr. and Mrs. Disney three children have been born: Lawrence, Lois and Everett. Lawrence is at present attending the Lake City high school. The two others are residing at home.

**Herman Zarling**, who is farming successfully on section 26, Highland Township, was born in St. Charles Township, Winona County, Minn., in 1885, son of William and Caroline Zarling. The parents were born in Germany and came to the United States in the late seventies, settling on the farm in Winona County on which their son Herman was born. In 1895 they removed to Highland Township, Wabasha County, where William Zarling became the owner of 700 acres of land, besides owning 180 acres in Winona County. They carried on the farm until he died in 1910. His wife passed away in 1917. They had a family of eleven children, all of whom are now living, namely: Bertha, wife of Henry Limekoul; Lizzie, wife of Matt Schelling; Herman, August and Emil; Maggie, wife of Jacob Schilling; Lena, wife of Louis Timm of Winona County; Ludie, wife of Tater Zierell; William, Caroline and Albert. After the death of the father the 700 acres in Highland Township was divided among the children, the mother keeping 160 acres. Herman's farm contains 180 acres. William Zarling, the father, was a member of the Congregational church, and served as school director for a number of years. He was a well known and highly respected citizen, his wife sharing his popularity as a worthy woman and good neighbor. Herman Zarling was given a district school education and was reared on his parents' farm in Winona County. After the family moved to Highland Township, Wabasha County, he continued his schooling in district No. 40. He remained at home helping on the farm until he was 25 years old and then engaged in farming for himself on section 26, where he has since remained. He successfully raises both crops and stock, the latter consisting chiefly of Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He has a good residence, which, with the other buildings on the farm, is lighted with electricity. His barn measures 30 by 60 feet, and his other buildings, all substantial, include two silos, milk house, granary and machine shed. He milks on an average of 14 cows. He also uses the De Laval Milking Machine in his dairy, and with his brother Emil owns and operates a threshing-machine, which he has operated 14 years. Mr. Zarling was married in 1914 at Dover, Winona County, to Della Miller, daughter of Albert and Minnie Miller. Her parents were natives of Germany, but came to this country when quite young and were reared in Winona County, this state. By a previous marriage Mr. Miller had two children, Roy and Clarence. By his second marriage, with Minnie Millbrandt, he had four—May, Della, Goldie and Edward. Mr. and Mrs. Zarling are the parents of four children:



Eva, Howard, Kenneth and Earl, the last mentioned being an infant born March 21, 1920.

**Matthias J. Hart**, a retired farmer and stock raiser, residing in Mazeppa, was born in Chester Township, this county, September 10, 1869, son of Marcus and Elizabeth (Olinger) Hart. The parents were natives of Gravenmacher, Luxemburg. Marcus, the father, came to Erie County, New York, in 1856. In the fall of 1865 he returned to Luxemburg, and was there married January 1, 1866, to Elizabeth Olinger, a native of the same village as himself. With his wife, and his brother Michael, he returned to the United States, and for a while resided in New York. In 1869 he came to Chester, Wabasha County, Minn., and bought 120 acres of land on sections 19 and 20, where he started farming. A few years later, on March 16, 1872, he died, leaving two children, John M., born in 1867, and Matthias J., the date of whose birth has been already given. In 1873 his widow married her first husband's brother, Michael Hart, who owned an interest in the farm, which he had assisted in working. Michael was born June 22, 1839, and became a cripple at the age of 16 years, his leg being broken by a wagon. From the age of 19 to that of 27 he operated a stationary engine, and then, as already stated accompanied his brother Marcus and the latter's newly wedded wife, to America. After arriving in this country he lived four years in Pewaukee, Wis., for most of the time operating an engine. In 1870 he came to Chester, Wabasha County, Minn. After marrying his brother's widow, they conducted the farm together, and about 1883 they enlarged it by the purchase of an additional tract of eighty acres. They had two children: Annie, born in 1875, and William, born in 1877, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Michael Hart died April 20, 1902. Her husband died April 6, 1909.

Matthias J. Hart was reared on his parents' farm, and in his boyhood attended the district school, which was locally known as "Trout Brook College." Besides working on the farm, he gradually came to do most of the housework, on account of his mother's failing health. In the meanwhile he bought land as he found opportunity, and in 1899 moved to his own farm, one mile from the old home, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising on his own account, doing a prosperous business. After being thus engaged for about twelve years, in 1911 he retired and moved to Mazeppa, where he has since made his home. During the war with Germany, Mr. Hart took a patriotic part, assisting in all the drives for Liberty Loans, Red Cross, and stamp sales in the township. As a successful farmer and useful and patriotic citizen he is widely known and respected. Mr. Hart was married September 17, 1898, at Belle Chester, Minn., to Anna M. Bartholome, born in Chester Township, September 9, 1878, daughter of Nicholas and Katherine (Jacobs) Bartholome. The parents were natives of Luxembourg, Belgium, the father coming to the United States before the Civil War, landing at New Orleans, and proceeding thence to Iowa, where he settled. After a while he went back to Germany, but later returned to the United States and located on a farm in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where he spent the rest of his life, dying June 29, 1918. His wife is still living and is a resident of Belle Chester. They were the parents of eleven children; of whom ten are now living: Dominic, of Belle Chester; Rev. John N. Bartholome of Wabasha; Anna, wife of M. J. Hart; Elizabeth, wife of Frank Lippert of McVile, N. D.; Justine, wife of George J. Dobner of Faribault, Minn.; William, a resident of Spokane, Wash.; Nicholas and George (twins), of Dickerson, N. D. and Regent, N. D.; Catherine, wife of John Huneke of Malta, Mont., and Peter W. (second), who is now the Rev. Peter W. Bartholome, a teacher in St. Mary's College at Winona, Minn. The first Peter W. died in Wisconsin in 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Hart have one son, Lawrence Marcus, born September 7, 1902, who is attending St. Mary's College at Winona. In 1917 Mr. Hart became a member of the village council, and in the spring of 1918 was elected mayor, being re-elected to the same office in 1919. He has been a stockholder in and a director of the Peoples Bank since it was organized, and





MATTHIAS J. HART AND FAMILY  
MR. AND MRS. NICHOLAS BARTHOLOME









is also a stockholder in the Farmers' elevator. He is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, the Ignatius Benevolent Society of Belle Chester, and the United Workman. He and his family are faithful members of the Catholic church.

**George H. Squire**, president of the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa, was born in Madison, Wis., August 8, 1865, son of William H. and Mary (Ingamells) Squire. The parents came to Minnesota in 1866, settling at Mazeppa, Wabasha County, where they remained three years. They then moved to Zumbrota, where they subsequently resided for the greater part of their time until their death, William H. Squire dying August 26, 1913, and his wife in May, 1916. The former was a Civil War veteran, having enlisted at Beloit, Wis., in Company E, 12th Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry regiment, and served three years. While in the service he had a stroke of paralysis from which he never fully recovered. George H. Squire acquired his education in Zumbrota, Minn., and subsequently learned photography, which he followed as a business for several years. In 1891 he came to Mazeppa and for three years he was employed in a general store here. Then for two years he was engaged in the livery business. In 1896 he was appointed postmaster, which position he held for 15 years, during 14 of which time he also conducted a furniture business. He is a member of the firm of Squire & Halgerson, conducting a general store, in which he owns a half interest. In 1909, when the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa was organized, Mr. Squire was made president, which office he still holds. As a business man and financier he has attained a solid reputation in the county, founded upon honesty and ability. Mr. Squire was married May 6, 1890, to Rachel Phillips, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon A. Phillips of Mazeppa. Her parents were early settlers in this village, arriving in 1876, and for many years Mr. Phillips was a prominent merchant here. He died in 1907. His wife was a native of Germany and they were married in Illinois in 1865. She died January 31, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Squire have been the parents of one child, Yale H., who was born April 6, 1894, and who lost his life while serving his country in the great World War.

**Yale H. Squire** was educated in Mazeppa, his birthplace, and at Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna. He soon engaged in journalistic work, first on the Mazeppa Journal, later as conductor of a paper in northern Michigan, and then as a reporter on the Minneapolis Daily News. After some further experience in Duluth and Atlanta, Ga., he returned to Minneapolis and in the spring of 1914 was engaged by the Minneapolis Tribune. After making a good record and scoring one of the biggest "scoops" known for some time in the newspaper field of that city, he was transferred to the sporting news department of the paper as assistant sporting editor and qualified himself as the golf expert of the Tribune. When it became probable that war would be declared he offered his services to the Norton-Harjes Ambulance Corps and left Minneapolis April 15, 1917, with Joe McDermott and others. A few days later, on April 21, he sailed for France, which country he reached after his vessel had narrowly escaped being torpedoed by a German submarine. In Paris he enlisted in Section 21 of the French army and served four and a half months as an ambulance driver, donating not only his services but his expenses in this work, as the French government paid the men only three cents a day. When American forces got to France the ambulance service was disbanded, and young Squire might have returned home, but with his friend Robert G. Browning of Minneapolis, afterwards captured by the Germans, he elected to volunteer for the aviation service, and on September 15 he began training. On February 18, 1918, he received his commission as first lieutenant. After having one narrow escape from death, from which he saved himself by his presence of mind, he finished training and was made an instructor. It was but three days later, on June 26, while instructing Norman D. Hughes of Philadelphia, that he met his death, together with his pupil, owing to the fall of his plane. He survived until



12:10 a. m., June 27, and was buried in the officers' section of the American cemetery at Tours, France. He was one of the first young men from Wabasha County to offer his services, his loyalty to the country was firm and unshakable, and he took a great pride and interest in his work. His parents and his numerous friends can take pride in the thought that he did his full duty with unflinching courage and met his fate like the brave soldier he was.

**Thomas W. Hodsdon**, a well known farmer of Chester Township, and one of its leading citizens, has resided here since his birth, which took place January 15, 1863, his parents being Charles and Harriet (Everson) Hodsdon. Charles Hodsdon, the father, was born in Waterville, Maine, and his wife Harriet in Syracuse, N. Y. They came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1855, having been married at Menomonie, Wis., where Mr. Hodsdon had worked for the Knapp-Stout Lumber Company. The land they homesteaded consisted of 160 acres in section 7, Chester Township, and was all wild, and at that early day there were numerous Indians in the vicinity. Mr. Hodsdon at once began the work of improvement and in time developed a good farm, erecting all necessary buildings. Here he and his wife spent the rest of their lives as industrious farmers, Mr. Hodsdon dying August 30, 1909, at the age of eighty years, and Mrs. Hodsdon September 7, 1902, at the age of seventy. They had three children: Flora, who married A. D. Simpkins of Beltrami County, Minnesota, her husband being now deceased; Charles F. of Bowman, N. D., and Thomas W., of Chester Township, Wabasha County. Thomas W. Hodsdon was educated in the district school, and worked for his father until he was 22 years old. Then, in 1885, he rented the home farm in Chester Township, which he operated as a renter until 1909, in which year he purchased it. Here he has since resided, carrying on general farming and stock raising. The farm is situated in section 7 and contains 114 acres, being provided with adequate buildings, and Mr. Hodsdon is operating it on a profitable basis. For 15 years he has been a member of the school board of district No. 66, and he also served three years as supervisor on the Chester Town Board. He is fraternally affiliated with the Masons, including the Eastern Star Chapter, the Workmen and the Degree of Honor. On July 3, 1884, Mr. Hodsdon was united in marriage with Katherine Barnish, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barnish. Her parents, who resided at Brookville, Wis., are now deceased. They had eleven children, four of whom are now living: Elizabeth, wife of Fred Becker, of Aberdeen, Wash.; Fred, of Woodville, Wis.; Jessie, wife of William Page, of St. Paul; and Katherine, wife of Thomas W. Hodsdon. Mr. and Mrs. Hodsdon have had seven children: Lela M., born October 23, 1885, now Mrs. Bert Rice, of Zumbrota; Jessie E., born June 26, 1887, who is the wife of Earl Lang of Cogswell, N. D.; Charles J., born June 25, 1889, who died September 10, 1889; Cassie J., born August 11, 1890, who is the wife of Henry Raasch of Zumbrota; Lucy H., born August 22, 1892, who is the wife of Olof Linskog of Faribault; Frederick J., born May 5, 1895, who is living in St. Paul; and Harold T., born May 12, 1899, who is residing on the home farm with his parents. Frederick enlisted in July, 1917, in Company D, Third Minnesota Infantry, and was stationed at Camp Cody, New Mexico. He was discharged December 18, 1917, on account of disability.

**Henry H. Roberson**, one of the early settlers of Gillford Township, now deceased, was born in Greenwich, Washington County, N. Y., June 23, 1841. He resided in his home locality until the latter fifties, when he first came to Wabasha County, Minn. After a brief residence he returned to New York state, but he must have been impressed by what he had seen of the possibilities of this new country, for in 1862 he came back to Wabasha County and bought 160 acres of land on section 34, Gillford Township. At the same time he took a claim of 80 acres adjoining, in section 27. Eighty acres of land was improved when he took possession, and there was a small house and some straw shacks on it. Thus provided with a homestead, all he needed was a suitable help-



mate, whom he found in the person of Lydia Whitcomb, daughter of Thomas and Aljane Whitcomb, of Salem, N. Y. They were married at Lake City. For 24 years Mr. Roberson worked industriously in improving and cultivating his farm, and at the end of that time, having acquired a competence, he retired and moved to Lake City, buying a house at 501 N. Garden street, which was his home for another quarter of a century, and where he died April 30, 1912, a well known and respected citizen. Politically he was a Republican, and in religious faith had been reared a Baptist, but was not particularly active in either politics or church work. He was survived by his wife, who is still living in their old home at Lake City. They had five children: Frank B., now living on the old homestead in Gillford Township; Frederick, also a resident of Gillford Township; Mortimer, deceased; Mott, also deceased; and Albert, who resides in Mt. Pleasant Township.

**Frank B. Roberson**, a well to do farmer of Gillford Township, proprietor of a farm established by his parents in the early sixties, was born on this farm August 2, 1863, son of Henry H. and Lydia (Whitcomb) Roberson. He has always remained on the home place, of which he took charge at the age of 17, and is the owner of the original tract of 160 acres first settled by his parents in 1862, and leasing out an additional "eighty," acquired by them and which belongs to his mother. The land is very productive and well tilled, 140 acres being under the plow. The farm is situated in section 34, and is 14 miles southeast of Lake City and four and a half northwest of Zumbro Falls. Mr. Roberson does diversified farming, giving special attention to stock breeding. He keeps Poll Angus cattle, Poland-China hogs and Shropshire sheep. He has a good set of farm buildings, and his operating equipment includes an auto car. He has made good financial progress and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator at Zumbro Falls, and the Merchants and Farmers Bank of Zumbro Falls, of which he is a director. Fraternally he belongs to Tyrian Lodge, No. 86, A. F. & A. M., of Mazeppa, and to the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically a Republican, he has served as a member of the town board for over 20 years, during most of that time being chairman, and for a number of years has been a member of the school board of his district, serving as treasurer and also as director. Mr. Roberson was married December 11, 1885, to Sarah F. Whitcomb, who was born at Kalamazoo, Mich., June 7, 1863, daughter of Wilson W. and Sarah E. (Lewis) Whitcomb. When she was two years old her parents moved to New York state, settling at Batavia, Genessee County, where her mother died in March, 1887. Her father is still residing there. Mr. and Mrs. Roberson have been the parents of six children: Blanche E., born April 15, 1887; Isabell E., January 19, 1889; Maude, October 18, 1891; Charles H., April 14, 1893; Wilson W., August 24, 1897; and Bruce, January 17, 1904. Blanche E., who was graduated from the Lake City high school and taught four years in the Wabasha County schools, is now Mrs. Louis Juers of Zumbro Falls. Isabell E., also a graduate of the Lake City high school, is the wife of C. E. Nygren, of Mt. Pleasant Township. Maude is residing with her parents on the homestead. Charles H., who graduated from the Lake City high school, learned photo-engraving at the Bissell Engraving College at Effingham, Ill., and holds a life scholarship in the institution. He worked two years at the trade in El Paso, Texas., and in 1913 returned to the home farm in Wabasha County, which he is now assisting his father to operate. Wilson W. is now deceased, having accidentally shot himself on the home farm on February 14, 1911. Bruce, who is living at home, is still a student. Mr. Roberson was reared in the faith of the Baptist church, though not now a member. Mrs. Roberson, with the other members of the family, are Episcopalians. They are people of high social standing in the community and have a wide circle of friends throughout this part of the county.

**Thomas H. Copp**, proprietor of one of the old pioneer homesteads of Gillford Township, which was settled by his parents in 1858, was born on this farm,



situated in section 24, on July 1, 1868, son of Peter and Elizabeth Copp. He has always resided here and both as youth and man helped his father and brothers to develop the farm, in time becoming familiar with all branches of agriculture. His father died in 1895 and his mother in 1910, and he is now the sole owner of the old home. The farm contains 214 acres, of which 107 are under the plow, and is provided with fair buildings. Mr. Copp follows general farming, raising grade cattle and pure blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs, and is recognized as a capable farmer and good citizen. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has always been a strong temperance man. Politically he is a Republican. His farm is ten miles from Lake City, seven from Zumbro Falls and six from Millville. Mr. Copp keeps bachelor house, having never married.

**John Stehr**, proprietor of one of the best farms in Chester, of which township he is a leading citizen was born in Featherstone Township, Goodhue County, Minn., son of Jacob D. and Metta (Quast) Stehr. The parents, natives of Hanover, Germany came to America in 1867, settling in Goodhue County, Minn., where they were engaged in farming until 1897. In that year Mrs. Metta Stehr died, and her husband, Jacob D. Stehr, moved to Chester Township, Wabasha County where he lived until 1907. After that he moved to Lake City, where he resided until his death on January 27, 1920. He had contracted a second marriage, and his second wife is now living in Lake City. He was a member of the German Lutheran church. By his first wife, Metta, he had six children, Dietrich (deceased), Margaret, John, Metta, Mary and Henry. John Stehr acquired his elementary education in a district school in Goodhue County and subsequently attended a business college at Red Wing, in which place he also worked in a shoe store for a year and a half. After that until 1896 he was associated with his father, for whom he worked. He then rented the home farm for two years. After that he removed to Chester Township, Wabasha County, where he rented the old homestead of his wife's grandparents, Ernest and Julia Radke, a place on which the grandparents had lived for over 50 years. Ernest Radke died in 1893 and his wife in 1916. Mr. Stehr then bought the interests of the heirs to this property, containing 160 acres in section 2. He also acquired other land, inheriting 120 acres in section 1, Chester Township, and in 1919 bought 80 acres in section 11, making a total of 360 acres that he now owns. He has built a good silo on his property, and repaired the original buildings, and is carrying on a prosperous business as a general farmer and stock raiser. As a good citizen he has taken a helpful interest in local affairs, having served seven years as clerk on the town board and 18 years as clerk of school district No. 65. Like his father, he is a Lutheran in religion. Mr. Stehr was married December 2, 1896, to Pauline Sprikes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Sprikes of Chester Township, this county. Her parents were early settlers in Wabasha County, the father coming here from Germany in 1868. The mother was born in Wisconsin, and they were married in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Mr. Sprikes is still living, at present residing in Minneapolis. Mrs. Sprikes died in 1893. They had five children, Pauline, Sophia, Edward, Frank and Edward (second), the last mentioned being now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Stehr nine children have been born, as follows: Ernest E., August 10, 1898; Rudolph H., March 19, 1900; Henrietta M., August 10, 1902; Albert J., February 8, 1905; Ida S., April 20, 1906; Florence P., July 15, 1908; John W., May 31, 1911; Lenora E., August 6, 1914, and Herbert D., June 22, 1919. All the children reside with their parents on the home farm, and the family is one of high social standing in this part of the county.

**Louis Springer**, for a number of years a well known agriculturist of the town of Oakwood, but now retired was born on a farm in the town of Zumbro, Wabasha County, Minn., February 28, 1867. His parents, William and Caroline (Scheibe) Springer, were natives of Germany who came to the United States in the early sixties, locating first in Winona, Minn., where they remained





JOHN STEHR AND FAMILY.







six months. They then bought a farm of 120 acres in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, which they operated for a while, and then moved to the town of Elgin. Later they took a farm in Oakwood Township, where they made their home for 48 years, William Springer dying in 1914 and his wife in 1913. They had six children: Eliza, wife of Julius Muckelberg of Rochester, Minn.; Sophia, who married John Core and is now deceased; Louis, subject of this sketch; Minnie, wife of Fred Langer, residing in Texas; Dora, wife of Henry Wurst, who lives on a farm in the town of Elgin; and Gusta, wife of Charles Schleicher, residing in Los Angeles, Calif. Louis Springer was reared on the home farm, accompanying his parents in their different removals to Elgin and Oakwood Townships. He acquired a district school education and became industrially active as his father's assistant. On starting in for himself he bought a farm of 210 acres, which he subsequently operated for 31 years, carrying on general farming, stock raising and dairying. Finally, having acquired a competence, he retired January 12, 1920, and went to California, where he spent the rest of the winter. It is his intention to reside temporarily in Lake City. The farm is now rented to his son, Frank. During his active career Mr. Springer devoted a part of his time to public affairs and served in various offices. He was town clerk, town chairman for six years, was a member and treasurer of the school board and a side supervisor. Mr. Springer was married in 1889 to Lena Blattner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Blattner of Oakwood Township, where her parents, natives of Germany, were early settlers. Mr. Blattner died in 1915 at the age of 85 years. He was twice married, having six children by his first wife, four sons and two daughters. Five are now living, namely: Herman, Julius, William, Louisa (widow of Peter Reiter), and Lena. By his second marriage, to Amelia Hartle, he had four sons and one daughter, Fred, August, John, Edward and Anna. The daughter Anna is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Springer five children have been born, four sons and one daughter: Frank, Henry and Albert, who are on the home farm; Adlina, wife of John Villwock of Lake City, and Carl, residing at home.

**Joseph Maas**, who is taking part in the agricultural development of Zumbro Township, as owner and operator of the old Maas farm in sections 23 and 26, was born in this township December 13, 1863, son of Joseph, Sr., and Mary (Meyer) Maas. The parents, who were natives of Mecklenberg, Germany, were early settlers in this county. Coming to the United States in 1857 they located first in Milwaukee, where Joseph Maas, Sr., did various work, including railroading, driving a dray, and farming. In 1862 he came with his family to Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, Minn., and bought a tract of 70 acres, of which 30 were in section 23 and 40 in section 26. The property being unimproved, he was obliged to erect a log house. Later he bought 200 acres more in sections 23 and 26, making a total of 270 acres, a part of which land he cleared. Here he was engaged in general farming until his death on October 7, 1903. His wife, who survived him, passed away May 5, 1920. They had three children, Mary and John, who are now deceased, and Joseph, the subject of this sketch. Joseph Maas acquired his education in the district school. He subsequently worked for his father until 1899, and on the latter's death inherited the home farm, which he has since carried on successfully. He has also improved the property by the erection of a new set of buildings. The only living member of one of the pioneer families of the county, he is well known and enjoys personal popularity. For two years he served as chairman of the Zumbro town board. In religion he is a Lutheran, like his parents. Mr. Maas was married December 13, 1896, to Agnes Neumann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Neumann, and of this union the following named children have been born: Albert O., January 10, 1898; Agnes, July 9, 1899; Joseph, November 26, 1900; Bertha, July 18, 1902; Lydia, June 11, 1904; John, August 21, 1906; Theodore Herbert, August 22, 1907; Gertrude, July 12, 1908; Walter, March 7, 1910, and Evelyn, January 16, 1913. Agnes is now the wife of Harry Koepsell, Joseph resides in



Chicago, and Bertha is in the employ of the Watkins Medical Co. of Winona. The others are residing at home. Mr. and Mrs. August Neumann, the parents of Mrs. Maas, were born in Germany and came to Minnesota in 1884, settling in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County. Until 1892 Mr. Neumann worked as a stone mason. After that he operated a farm until 1904, when his active career was brought to an end by a stroke of paralysis, though he is still living. Mrs. Neumann died April 15, 1903. She, like her husband, was a member of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of eight children: Paul, Annie, Agnes, Minnie, Martha, August, Bertha and Frederick. Paul and Annie are now deceased.

**Wallace M. Whipple** was born in Zumbrota Township, Goodhue County, Minn., May 6, 1876, son of Charles J. and Louise (Nichols) Whipple. The father was born in Madison County, N. Y., and the mother in Vermont. The latter came to Minnesota with her parents when a young girl, the family settling at an early day in Zumbrota Township, Goodhue County, where they homesteaded 80 acres of land. They then purchased 80 acres more, and on their farm of 160 acres the parents spent the rest of their lives. Charles J. Whipple came to Goodhue County when 19 years old and bought the homestead of Grandfather Nichols. He married at Red Wing, Louise Nichols and spent the rest of his life farming the old homestead of his wife's father. He died May 4, 1915. His wife, Louise, died August 18, 1883, and after her death he married Mary Colling of Mazeppa, who is also deceased, having passed away in 1895. By the first marriage there were five children, two of whom are now living, namely, Wallace M., and Clarence E. of Spokane, Wash. Those deceased are Charles, Mary, and Louis. By his second wife Charles J. Whipple had nine children, all now living: Marvin W., of Douglas, Minn.; William, of Goodhue County; Martha, wife of Archie Stull, of Mazeppa; Dollie, wife of George Horton, of Hammond, Minn.; Elsie, wife of John Rolland, of Hammond; Nellie, wife of Arthur Sandburg, of Maiden Rock, Wis.; George, of Minneapolis; John, of Bay City, Wis.; and Edna, wife of Arthur Izenburg, of Arizona. Wallace M. Whipple was reared on the farm in Goodhue County, attending the district school, the Zumbrota high school and Red Wing Business College. He remained on the home farm until 19 years old, helping his father, and then began farming for himself on the William Parkinson place in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County. Here he has since remained engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was married August 12, 1896, on the Parkinson farm in Zumbro Township, to Margaret Ann Parkinson, daughter of William and Ellen Parkinson. She died December 14, 1915, and he married, March 28, 1916, Mary Parkinson, daughter of James W. and Nettie Parkinson of Zumbro Township. By the first marriage he had four children: Wallace W., Margaret A., Lizzie L. and Charles R. Of the second marriage two children were born: Amos and Lloyd. Mr. Whipple owns and operates 395 acres in Zumbro and Mazeppa Townships.

**James W. Parkinson**, one of the leading farmers of Zumbro Township, and an extensive stock raiser, was born in Lancashire, England, January 24, 1863, son of William and Ellen (Knight) Parkinson, both of whom were natives of England. William Parkinson, the father, had but a limited education, as at the early age of nine years he was obliged to work in a cotton factory. When a young man he served as groom and gardener for a clergyman, remaining in England until 1864, when he came to the United States with his family, having been previously married to Ellen Knight. For some time he resided in Joliet, Ill., being employed as a guard at the state prison. Later he went to Wisconsin, where he was employed in the lumber business. In 1869 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., and bought 80 acres of land in section 14, Zumbro Township. In time he cleared all of his land, erected necessary buildings and developed a good farm, on which he resided until his death, October 20, 1906. His wife survived him less than three years, passing away September 21, 1909.









MR. AND MRS. N. J. HILGER



They were members of the Episcopal church. Their children were: James W., Joseph, Elizabeth and Margaret, of whom Joseph and Margaret are now deceased. James W. Parkinson was an infant in arms when he accompanied his parents to America, and was only six years old when they settled in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County. He soon after began to attend the district school, where he acquired his education. As he grew older he began to make himself useful on his parents' farm, and was his father's assistant until 1887, in which year he rented the farm and for four years subsequently operated it on his own account. In 1891 he bought it and at later intervals he purchased other land until he now owns 515 acres in Zumbro township, in sections 10, 11, 14 and 15. Here he is engaged in general farming, giving particular attention to stock raising, and is numbered among the enterprising and successful farmers of his township. In addition to his farm, Mr. Parkinson owns two lots in the Baker addition to Mazeppa. Mr. Parkinson was married May 10, 1887, to Miss Nettie Barnes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Barnes. Her parents were natives of England who came to America in the early sixties and settled in Zumbro Township, this county, where the father, Amos Barnes, died July 23, 1881. The mother now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Parkinson. The latter was one of a family of five children: George A., Nettie M., Charles E., John A., and Frankie, the last mentioned being now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Parkinson are the parents of six children, as follows: Mary E., born April 21, 1888, now Mrs. Wallace Whipple; Edna M., born March 12, 1890, who is the wife of Clarence Greer; John W., born April 29, 1893, residing on the home farm; Grace L., born January 28, 1895, now Mrs. Edward Herman; Sylvia M., born September 11, 1898, and James W., born June 4, 1905, both of whom are residing at home.

**Nicholas J. Hilger**, at different times a resident of Mazeppa village, and for several years a merchant here until his recent death, was born at Bellevue, Iowa, January 30, 1873, and was a boy when he came to Mazeppa with his parents. He acquired his education in the village school, and after entering the ranks of industry was occupied in painting and paper-hanging in Mazeppa and the vicinity until 1902. He then moved to Red Wing, where for four years he was engineer in the Red Wing Mill. In 1906 he entered the Red Wing Linseed Mill, where he was chief engineer for 11 years. In 1917 Mr. Hilger returned to Mazeppa and bought the G. H. Squire furniture business, later expanding his business by adding an undertaking department. He received an extensive patronage and was enjoying a well earned prosperity when he was called away by death on April 28, 1920. For some months previously he had been seriously ill. A contemplated operation was abandoned because it was found that the disease from which he suffered had progressed too far for aid. He endured the long wait for the end with exemplary courage, and his cheerfulness aided his family to overcome the despondency which might otherwise have affected them at the suffering of a loved one. Mr. Hilger served one term as a member of the village council of Mazeppa. He was a member of the Catholic church and of several societies, including the Knights of Columbus at Red Wing; the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he was secretary at the time of his death, and the SS. Peter and Paul Society. He was held in universal esteem as a business man eminently fair in all his dealings and a useful and friendly neighbor and citizen. To his family he was a loving, thoughtful and provident husband and father. Mr. Hilger was married June 27, 1900, to Mayme H. Reding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Reding of Mazeppa village. Of this union three children were born: Clarence J. A., April 3, 1903; Wilfred N., November 8, 1907, and Bernard G., July 28, 1911. Clarence is now a student at St. Mary's College, Winona. Since her husband's death Mrs. Hilger has operated the furniture store. While residing in Red Wing she passed through all the chairs in the Degree of Honor, and has served as vice president and adviser of the Ladies' Catholic Aid Society of Mazeppa. In addition to his wife and children, Mr.



Hilger left seven brothers and three sisters: Michael, Alexander, Dan, William, Kate and Mrs. George Sand, of Mazeppa; Mrs. Clara Huberty, of Pine Island; John, of Wabasha; George, of Weaver; and Dr. J. M. Hilger, of Ione, all of whom were present at his funeral.

**Otto C. Siercks**, proprietor of Twin Mounds Stock Farm, situated in sections 26 and 27, Zumbro Township, of which township he is one of the leading citizens, was born in Clay County, Ia., February 28, 1872, son of Hans T. and Doris (Stark) Siercks. The parents were natives of Germany who came to the United States in the early sixties, settling in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Later they removed to Clay County, Ia., there taking a claim of 40 acres on which they resided five years. They then returned to Wabasha County, Minn., and for several years rented a farm in Zumbro Township. Mrs. Doris Siercks died August 28, 1888, and Hans T. Siercks resided for some two years in Plainview Village, afterwards returning to Zumbro Township, where he again engaged in farming and continued in that occupation until he finally retired. He now resides with his daughter, Mrs. E. Schuchart of Zumbro Township. He and his wife had six children, Fred, Otto C., Emma, Anna, Minnie and Helen. Fred and Helen are now deceased. The parents were members of the German Lutheran church. Otto C. Siercks acquired his elementary education in the district school and also attended school for a while in Plainview Village. For several years he worked for his father and then went to Winona, Minn., where he was engaged in the butcher's business until 1893. In the year 1893 he conducted a butcher's shop at Tyler, Minn., after which he returned to Winona and was there again for a year. In 1896 Mr. Siercks moved to Hammond, Wabasha County, and was engaged in the hardware and machine business there until 1900. In that year he engaged in farming on his present farm, containing 160 acres in sections 26 and 27, Zumbro Township, which is known as Twin Mounds Stock Farm and which he purchased in 1911. Here he has erected a complete set of buildings, including a basement barn, 36 by 80 feet, installed with the James equipment, and including a Pine Tree milking machine. It is lighted with electricity. Mr. Siercks does general farming but gives special attention to stock raising and dairying. He is raising Holstein cattle, keeping full-blooded sires, and also breeds Percheron horses and Chester-White hogs. He has served seven years as a supervisor on the town board and several years as a member of the school board of his district and is a man of public spirit who takes an active interest in whatever concerns the general good of the community. He is also president of the Hammond Co-operative Creamery. On October 17, 1895, Mr. Siercks was united in marriage with Mary Schulz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schulz of Faribault, Minn. Of this union six children have been born: Pearl L., born July 27, 1896, now Mrs. Howard Ranstead of Faribault; Charles L., August 21, 1899, who is on the home farm; Doris E., July 1, 1903, who is attending the high school at Faribault; Wilbur L., August 28, 1905; Judson K., December 12, 1908, and Marion L., April 5, 1910, the three youngest members of the family, like Charles L., residing with their parents.

**Briney Scott**, the proprietor and operator of a farm of 249 acres in Zumbro Township, was born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, March 8, 1867, son of Patrick and Mary (Lane) Scott. The parents came to Wabasha County from Ireland in the early sixties, settling on a tract of 200 acres in West Albany Township, a part of which the father cleared, also erecting buildings and carrying on general farming. He died in 1912, having survived his wife Mary, who passed away in 1905. Their children were Mary, Briney, Michael, Richard, Margaret and Annie, the last three mentioned of whom are now deceased. Briney Scott was educated in the district school and after beginning industrial life worked for his father until 1892. He then bought a threshing-machine that he operated for several years. In 1894 he purchased 160 acres of land in West Albany Township, on which he built a residence



and outbuildings, and was engaged in farming and stock raising there until 1899, when he sold the property. After that, for a number of years, he operated rented farms in Wabasha County. Then, in 1916, he bought his present farm of 249 acres in section 11, Zumbro Township, on which he has made some improvements, and where he is successfully carrying on a general farming business. He was formerly a member of the school board in Highland Township, is fraternally affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Scott was married June 16, 1893, to Anna McNulty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cormick McNulty, her parents being natives of Ireland who came to America in the early sixties and settled in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where they spent the rest of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Briney Scott are the parents of 11 children, all of whom are living, namely: Florence, born November 3, 1894; Richard, March 8, 1896; Theresa, October 23, 1897; Irene, August 14, 1899; Bernard, August 17, 1901; Ralph, July 11, 1903; Alice, September 10, 1906; William, September 26, 1907; Lloyd, February 12, 1909; Vincent, September 19, 1911, and Arthur, August 30, 1914. Florence is now Mrs. Frank O'Donald, Richard resides in Gary, Ind., Theresa is now Mrs. Walter Canfield of Kellogg, Irene is a teacher in the Smithfield district, and Lloyd is a student in the high school at St. Paul.

**Peter W. Wagner**, a prominent farmer of Zumbro Township, now chairman of the town board of supervisors, was born in the Province of the Rhine (or Rhenish Prussia), Germany, June 22, 1867, son of Nicholas and Anna (Lichtendahl) Wagner. The parents came to America, and to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1893, settling in Hyde Park Township, where Nicholas Wagner was subsequently engaged in farming until his death on September 8, 1903. His wife died in October, 1913. They were Catholics in religion. Their children were Peter W., Helen (now deceased), Anna and Andrew. Peter W. Wagner came to this country before his parents, in 1889, locating at Hammond, Wabasha County, Minn. At first he engaged in farm labor, and then for eight years operated rented farms. In 1903, having through economy made some financial progress, he bought 267 acres in section 27, Zumbro Township, where he now resides. He has improved his place by the erection of a complete set of buildings, including a fine barn 36 by 80 feet in ground dimensions. His farm is equipped with an individual electric lighting plant. As a general farmer and stock raiser he has been very successful, and also feeds a large amount of stock in the winter time. He is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Hammond; also in the Hammond Co-operative Creamery and the Hammond Telephone Company. He has been a member of the town board for three years, now serving as chairman, and is a man of public spirit in all things concerning the welfare of the community in which he resides. A Catholic in religion, he is fraternally a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Wagner was married November 2, 1897, to Ida Mullen, born March 19, 1867, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Mullen, the parents being natives of Pennsylvania, in which state the mother still lives; the father died January 10, 1912. They had ten children: George, John, James, William, Frank, Anna, Bernice, Ida, Stella and June. James is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are the parents of six children: Agnes, born September 12, 1898, now Mrs. Thomas McGrath of Highland Township; Ruth, born December 24, 1900, who is the wife of Leo Wiley of Plainview Village; Paul, born May 19, 1902; Arthur and William (twins), born February 24, 1905; and Carl, born April 6, 1912.

**Joseph J. Cliff**, whose death some 12 years ago deprived Chester Township of one of its leading citizens, was born in England, May 7, 1844, and came to the United States with his parents in 1865. The family settled in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., and engaged in farming. Joseph worked for his father until 1873, and then started in for himself, buying 280



acres in section 23, Chester. With commendable energy he improved his place by the erection of a new set of buildings, and followed general farming and stock raising with profitable results until his death on August 28, 1908. He was a citizen held in high esteem and served as supervisor on the town board. Mr. Cliff was married in 1873 to Melissa Merrill, who died after a few years of wedded life in 1876. On June 13, 1882, Mr. Cliff married Mary Robinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Robinson of Mazeppa. Both her parents have passed away, the father dying in 1909, and the mother in 1907. The children of Joseph J. and Mary Cliff were as follows: Anna B., born June 21, 1884, now Mrs. Ernest Beals of St. Paul; Maude J., born March 10, 1886, who is the wife of F. C. Yotter of Mazeppa; Charles P., born April 16, 1889, who is now in North Dakota; Jessie F., born November 26, 1891, now Mrs. Alfred Rucker of Oronoco, Minn.; Florence, born October 6, 1893, wife of Lawrence Wassman of Lake City; Clark R., born July 17, 1894; McKinley, born February 18, 1897, and Ruth E., born August 28, 1898. The three last mentioned are still residing on the home farm with their mother, it being operated by the two sons, Clark and McKinley. The Cliff family have a good social standing and are affiliated religiously with the Congregational church. Charles C. Robinson, the father of Mrs. Cliff, was born in New York State, and came west to Illinois, where he engaged in farming. There he married Elizabeth Peeler, and at a still early day they came to Wabasha County, Minn., and engaged in farming in Chester Township. They had six children, four sons and two daughters, all of whom are now deceased except Charles of Minneapolis, Edwin of Idaho, Mary, widow of Joseph J. Cliff, and Eva, wife of Will Vilas of Denver, Colo. During the Civil War Mr. Robinson enlisted in a Minnesota regiment and served about two years.

**John Befort**, a representative farmer of Chester Township, where he has resided all his life, was born here March 30, 1869, son of William and Anna (De Ville) Befort. The parents were natives respectively of Germany and France who came to this country in the early sixties, and who, after residing in New York State for several years, came west to Wisconsin, thence to Goodhue County, Minn., and later to Chester Township, Wabasha County, where they spent the rest of their lives in farming. The mother died in 1908 and the father in 1909. They were members of the Catholic church. Their children were William, Mary, Anna, John (first), John (second), Katherine, Frank, Lena and Agnes. The first John died in infancy and Katherine is also now deceased. The subject of this sketch, who was the second child of his parents to be named John, was educated in the district school and learned agriculture on the home farm, working for his father until 1895. Then for four years he operated 80 acres of land which he rented of his father. In 1899 he moved to the main part of the home farm, which consisted of 160 acres in section 30, and which he afterwards purchased, improving the property by the erection of a barn and outbuildings. Here he has since carried on general farming, raising good stock. For eight years he has served as clerk of the school board of District No. 91, and still holds that position. He is a member of the Catholic church and also belongs to the Catholic order of Foresters. Mr. Befort was married April 23, 1895, to Rose Redie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Redie of Mazeppa. She was one of two children, having a sister Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Befort are the parents of five children, who were born as follows: Mary, November 16, 1896; Annie, June 19, 1899; Viola J., December 7, 1901; William R., December 3, 1904, and Caroline G., July 6, 1908. Mary is now the wife of Joseph Reuter and Annie the wife of Theodore Manthei.

**Claus Klindworth**, who for 43 years was a respected citizen of Chester Township, where during his active period he was engaged in agriculture, was born in Hanover, Germany, where he resided until 11 years old. He then in 1872 came with his parents to America, the family locating on a farm in





CLAUS KLINDWORTH AND FAMILY







Hay Creek Township, Goodhue County, Minn. After a residence there of one year, they moved to Chester Township, Wabasha County, taking a farm which they cultivated and developed into a valuable property, and where Mr. Klindworth died December 4, 1919, at the age of about 55 years. He had been an active and industrious citizen, a good neighbor, and the worthy head of a worthy family. His wife, who survived him, is residing in Zumbro Falls. Their family numbered eight children, evenly divided between sons and daughters, namely: John A., Anna, Alfred D., Clarence, Johanna, Lorena, Esther and Raymond. John A. is now engaged in the hardware business at Zumbro Falls, with his brother Alfred. Anna is the wife of Jacob B. Schwartz of Zumbro Falls. Clarence resides at Dumont, Minn. Johanna is the wife of Richard Gerken, and lives on the Gerken farm at Hyde Park. Lorena, residing on the home farm in Chester Township, is the wife of Forrest Atkinson. Esther and Raymond reside with their mother. Claus Klindworth, the father, was a man who took an active interest in all matters affecting the good of the community in which he lived, serving as road commissioner and as school clerk for a number of years. He left his farm of 120 acres in good condition and it is today a valuable piece of agricultural property.

**John A. Klindworth**, a member of the prosperous hardware and farm implement firm of Klindworth Bros., of Zumbro Falls, was born in Chester Township, Wabasha County, in 1891, son of Claus and Katherine Klindworth. In his boyhood he attended the district school and engaged in farm work, assisting his father until 1909, in which year he came to Zumbro Falls and engaged in the hardware and implement business with H. R. Gray. In September, 1919, his brother Alfred bought Mr. Gray's interest in the business, which is now carried on by the firm of Klindworth Bros. In addition to hardware the firm handles auto cars and tractors, and operates a garage where they repair all kinds of cars. They have a good patronage and the business is growing, with satisfactory financial results. John Klindworth served on the village council in 1917, and in 1919 was elected mayor, which office he still holds. He was married in 1911 to Anna Gerken, daughter of Cord and Anna (Duden) Gerken, the parents being natives of Hanover, Germany, who on coming to Wabasha County, Minn., engaged in farming and became prosperous. Cord Gerken died in June, 1919, but his wife is still living. They were the parents of four daughters and one son: Ella, wife of Henry Heitman, of Gillford; Katie, wife of Fred Heitman, also of Gillford; Mary, wife of Albert Manthie, of Chester; Henry, who died in 1919; and Anna, wife of John Klindworth. Mr. and Mrs. Klindworth have two children, Elmer and Bernice, both attending school. Mr. Klindworth is a prominent member of the community in which he has cast his lot, and that he is popular and recognized as a capable man of affairs is proved by his election to the highest local office within the gift of his fellow citizens.

**John T. Goodman**, engaged in agriculture in Chester Township, of which township he is one of the prominent citizens, was born in Goodhue County, November 26, 1861, son of John and Jeanette (Bump) Goodman. The father, who was born in Germany, came to America in the early forties, settling in Goodhue County, Minn., on 80 acres of land. During the Civil War he served in the Union army, being honorably discharged in 1865. Shortly after his return from the war he died. His wife survived him a number of years passing away in 1879. They were members of the German Lutheran church. They had only two children, both sons, Charles E. and John T. John T. Goodman acquired his education in the Mazeppa village schools and lived with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Orson Bump, until he was 17 years old. He worked at farm labor by the month, near Mazeppa, until 1881, after which he rented different farms in Goodhue and Olmsted Counties. In 1901 he bought his present farm of 93 acres in section 31, Chester Township, on which he has



since made some improvements, including the erection of a new modern house, and is pursuing a successful career as a general farmer. For 12 years he has been one of the supervisors on the Chester town board, in which office he is still serving. Mr. Goodman was married January 15, 1881, to Margaret La Van, who was born in Goodhue County, September 28, 1865, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dominic La Van. Her parents came to Goodhue County, Minn., from Iowa in the spring of 1865, settling near Pine Island. In the La Van family there were nine children: Peter, Lizzie, Agnes, Charles, George, Nicholas, Theodore, Anna and Margaret. Lizzie, George and Charles are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Goodman seven children have been born: George E., August 28, 1886; Bessie B., January 30, 1888; Sylvia A., October 15, 1896; Grace M., May 1, 1898; Charles, February 16, 1901; Ruth E., May 26, 1903, and Homer E., September 14, 1892. Bessie is now the wife of Henry Nelson of Rochester, Sylvia the wife of Archie Franklin of Chester Township, and Grace the wife of Bert Owen of Rochester. Homer E., died at the age of seven years in 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Goodman are affiliated religiously with the Congregational church. Mr. Goodman is a member of the Masonic order, including the Eastern Star Chapter; also the Workmen, while Mrs. Goodman belongs to the Eastern Star.

**Frank E. Kelch**, a widely known and respected citizen of Zumbro Township, formerly engaged in agriculture but now retired, was born in the Province of Brandenburg, Prussia, Germany, June 7, 1863, son of Frank and Fredericka (Senst) Kelch. He was educated in his native land and in 1874, at the age of 11 years, came to the United States with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Erdman Senst, who located in Wabasha County, Minn. After arriving here he attended school for awhile in Elgin and Oakwood Townships and then took up farm labor, being thus occupied for seven years in Oakwood Township. In 1889, having saved some money, he rented a farm in Oakwood Township and started in for himself. For seven years he operated that farm, and then in 1896 he bought 80 acres in section 36, and later added more until he now has 188½ acres in sections 26 and 36, Zumbro Township. On this farm he erected a fine set of buildings and put up fences, and was here engaged in general farming until 1918, when he retired and deeded the farm to his son August, though retaining his residence on the place. A practical man in his line of business, he had a successful career and is now in comfortable circumstances. For six years he served as chairman of the school board of his district. Mr. Kelch was united in marriage March 6, 1889, to Marie Villwock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Villwock. Her parents were natives of Germany who came to Minnesota in 1869 and settled in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, where for 22 years they operated farms under rental. At the end of that time they bought a farm, on which they spent the rest of their lives. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church. To Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Kelch four children have been born: August, February 20, 1890; Clara, July 8, 1893; Marie, November 23, 1895, and Edward, October 21, 1899. Clara died May 4, 1904. Edward died August 16, 1901. Marie is now Mrs. Henry Rahman of Theilman, Wabasha County.

**Francis Foster Bundy**, who owns and operates a good farm of 160 acres in section 5, Gillford Township, was born in Clearfield, Penn., September 1, 1863. His parents, William and Emelene (Hevener) Bundy, were farmers who came to Wabasha County in the spring of 1864, locating on the Russell farm in Mt. Pleasant Township. There Francis F. grew up and attended the common school. Later, his father owning a farm in Gillford Township, he was placed in charge and operated it, the only other son in the family, Wesley, having died in 1872. On October 5, 1888, Francis F. Bundy married Bertha Segar, daughter of George and Lucinda Segar of Mazeppa Township. She died in May, 1900, leaving two children: Lindsay F., born April 16, 1892, and Esther May, born October 15, 1898. Lindsay F. married Myrtle Horning of Mt. Pleas-



ant Township and is now a farmer in Gillford Township. Esther May, who graduated from the normal course of the Lake City high school, has been a teacher for four years in the Wabasha County schools. On October 12, 1901, Francis F. Bundy married Lucy Whaley, who was born in Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, February 5, 1879, daughter of Syrenus and Eliza (Soule) Whaley. Her parents dying when she was three years old, she was reared by Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Boughton of Mazeppa Township. Of her parents' family of 13 children, nine are still living, six brothers and three sisters. To Francis F. and Lucy Bundy six children have been born: Marian F., September 5, 1902; Ruth Eva, November 15, 1903; June Emeline, September 9, 1906; William Benjamin, January 17, 1909; Florence Norine, October 3, 1915, and Beulah Belle, May 10, 1918. About the time of his second marriage Mr. Bundy bought and took possession of his present farm of 160 acres in section 5, Gillford Township, the land being all tillable. Here he is carrying on diversified farming, keeping grade Holstein cattle (having 15 to 20 milch cows), and a herd of 40 to 50 grade hogs. He has made valuable improvements on his place by the erection of new buildings, which include a barn 38 by 66 by 16 feet, with a full stone basement of 8 feet; a steel tool shed 30 by 56 by 8 feet; a granary 24 by 32 by 18 feet, two stories with an elevator; a poultry house and hog house. His farm lies ten miles southwest of Lake City, and in addition to his interests therein, Mr. Bundy is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Store at Red Wing, the Realty Company of Belle Chester, and the Oak Center Creamery. He is also a member of the local shipping association. Mr. Bundy is a skilled farmer and has natural ability as a mechanic. He has made good financial progress and he and his family are among the most respected residents of Gillford Township. For many years he has favored the cause of prohibition, and he is one of the two citizens of his township who voted the prohibition ticket in national elections.

**John Blattner, Sr.**, one of the early pioneers of Wabasha County who settled in Oakwood Township in 1858, was a man of sterling worth, who by hard work and frugality gained a competence and the respect of the community. He was born in Switzerland and acquired a good education. In early life he learned the science of agriculture. His first claim consisted of 120 acres of wild land in section 32. This he broke and developed and in time erected substantial buildings, also adding by degrees to his land until his farm contained 360 acres. On this farm he followed diversified agriculture and stock raising for many years. He was a man of domestic tastes, and his home and fireside, where he was surrounded by his wife and children, were his comfort. A man of strong and ambitious character, he gathered his share of the world's goods and at the time of his death left a goodly inheritance to his children. During his early years on the farm he experienced all the hardships of pioneer life and lived to see the reward of his labors. Honest and upright in all his business transactions, he gained a place in the hearts of his fellow townsmen, was a true American and a good, true Christian. Mr. Blattner was twice married, first to Ernestina Shiebe, by whom he had six children, namely, Louisa, Herman, Henry, Julius, Lena and William. His second marriage was to Amalia Hartle and took place at Plainview. By her he had the following children, who are living: Fred, of Rochester, Minn.; August, of Little Falls, Minn.; John H., of Oakwood Township, and Edward, of Rochester. Mrs. Amalia Hartle Blattner was a woman who proved a faithful wife and loving mother, and was a great help to her family circle. She died March 13, 1915. Mr. Blattner survived her but a few months, passing away June 12, the same year.

**Edward Blattner**, for a number of years a well known and popular member of the agricultural community of Oakwood Township, was born on his father's farm in this township November 24, 1892, son of John and Amalia (Hartle) Blattner. He acquired his education in District School No. 44, Oakwood Township. His industrial career has followed agricultural lines, and he



always remained on the old homstead, of which he bought 120 acres in 1916, and until 1919 was engaged in mixed farming, keeping dairy cattle. He has fenced his part of the farm, built a garage, and made other general improvements, and is in prosperous circumstances. In 1920 he sold the farm and now resides in Rochester, Minn.

**John H. Blattner**, a well known farmer of Oakwood Township, was born on his parents' farm in section 32, this township, a part of which he now occupies, on January 4, 1888, son of John and Amalia (Hartle) Blattner. He was educated in District School No. 44, and remained at home until 23 years old, at which time he rented a farm in Viola Township, Olmsted County, which he operated for one year. He then returned to the home farm, of which he later came into possession of 120 acres. To that area he added 40 acres adjoining, all in section 32, making a farm of 160 acres which he is now operating. He has some good stock, consisting chiefly of grade cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, raising catttle both for market and dairy purposes. His improvements include the erection of a good house, and the fencing of most of the farm, which is now in good condition and yielding a satisfactory profit. Mr. Blattner was married December 20, 1911, to Martha Hoffman, who was born in Oakwood Township March 28, 1889. He and his wife have three children: Harold, Myrtie and Francis.

**John Morrisey**, until recently one of the active and leading farmers of Zumbro Township, but now retired and residing in Rochester, Minn., was born in Delaware County, Iowa, January 8, 1873, son of James and Ellen (Raddebaugh) Morrisey. The father was a native of Canada and the mother of Pennsylvania. In the early seventies the family moved to Manchester, Iowa, and for a few years James Morrisey farmed in that vicinity. In 1877 he came with his wife and children to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in Zumbro Township, where he continued as a farmer until a few years before his death in 1889. He had been a widower for seven years, his wife having died in 1882. They had five children: George, Cora, Clara, Ida and John, of whom George and Cora are now deceased. The parents were members of the Catholic church. John Morrissey acquired his education in the district school. He was early trained to agriculture on the home farm, and was subsequently for many years engaged in farm labor working for others. During that period he practiced economy, so that in 1898 he was able to buy 320 acres of good farm land in sections 1, 11 and 12, Zumbro Township, on which he erected a complete set of buildings, also clearing 40 acres of the land and fencing the entire farm. In 1907 he built a new barn 36 by 84 feet in size. He followed general farming, keeping full blooded sires at the head of his herds of stock. For the last four years of his residence in Zumbro Township he served as a member of the town board of supervisors. He is fraternally affiliated with both the Masons and Odd Fellows, while religiously he is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Morrisey has had a successful career, and, having accumulated a competency, has bought a nice residence in Rochester, where he now resides at 313 Fourth avenue, N. W. On July 3, 1900, Mr. Morrisey was united in marriage with Alice Arnold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Arnold. Her parents, then residents of Zumbro Township, are now deceased, the father having died in 1900 and the mother in 1907. In the Arnold family there were eight children: Charles, Frank, Ernest, Arthur, Wallace, Earl, Alice and Clarence, of whom Clarence is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Morrisey have had six children: Arvilla, born April 2, 1901, who died August 5, 1909; Lela, born November 16, 1903; Max, born January 4, 1905, who died May 3, 1910; Leola, born June 9, 1907; Evelyn, born December 16, 1911, and Donald, born August 2, 1920.

**William J. Befort**, who owns and operates in Chester Township one of the best farms in Wabasha County, was born in Wisconsin, January 2, 1862, son of William and Anna (De Ville) Befort. The father was a native of Germany and the mother of France. They came to America in the early sixties, and, after



remaining several years in New York state, settled in Wisconsin. Subsequently they removed to Goodhue County, Minn., and still later to Wabasha County, taking a farm in Chester Township, on which the father died in 1909 and the mother in 1908. They were Catholics in religion. Their children were William J., Mary, Anna, John (first), John (second), Katherine, Frank, Lena and Agnes. John (first) and Katherine are deceased, the first mentioned dying in infancy. William J. Befort was educated in the district school, and worked for his father until 1891. He then rented the home farm for two years. In 1893 he began buying land, his first purchase consisting of 80 acres. Then, in 1895, he bought 80 acres more, and in 1899 an additional tract of 40 acres, making a total of 200 acres in sections 19, 20 and 29, Chester Township. In 1919 he contracted to buy the John Philley farm of 186 acres in section 30, and now owns and controls a fine farm of 466 acres, on which he has erected all the buildings, which are substantially constructed and of modern type. His barn measures 46 by 90 feet and is furnished with a full Louden equipment. He has installed electric lights on his place, and his general farm equipment is very complete, including tractors and a threshing-machine. In short, Mr. Befort has shown himself to be one of the most progressive farmers in his township and the results of his enterprise are fully manifest in the fine condition of his farm and the prosperity he is now enjoying as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has served for 36 years on the school board of his district, No. 91. He has recently enjoyed more leisure than formerly, having turned over the active management of the farm to his sons, Stephan and Lewis. Mr. Befort was married April 7, 1891, to Mary Reding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephan Reding. Her parents were natives of Belgium who emigrated to Minnesota many years ago, settling in Goodhue County, where the father died in 1904 and the mother in 1908. They had ten children, of whom six are now living, namely: Henry N., Frank P., Mary, Sarah C., Fred H., and Anna J. Those deceased are: Stephan J., Albert J., Clara and John. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Befort are the parents of five children, all residing at home, and who were born as follows: Stephan W., January 16, 1892; Isabella S., June 7, 1894; Lewis J., March 15, 1896; Nicholas H., February 7, 1901; and Lawrence W., January 12, 1903. Lewis J. enlisted June 24, 1918, and served in the 78th Division in France for about one year, in the Argonne and St. Mihiel sectors. He was discharged at Camp Dodge in May, 1919. The Befort family is one of high standing in Chester Township. Its members are Catholics in religion.

**Fred Grossback**, a prosperous farmer of Mazeppa Township, of which he is one of the supervisors, was born in Goodhue County, Minn., April 6, 1883, son of Joseph and Frances (Kunert) Grossback. The father was born in Germany and came to America in 1856 with his parents, who settled in Wisconsin, where the family remained for 19 years. In 1875 Joseph Grossback came to Minnesota and settled on a tract of 160 acres of land in Goodhue County, where he began farming. He erected a set of buildings and in time cleared most of his land. In 1885 he bought 120 acres in Mazeppa Township, on which farm also he erected buildings, and where he remained ten years. In 1895 he bought 137 acres in Mazeppa Township. Ambitious and enterprising, he worked hard and became prosperous, at one time owning 657 acres in Goodhue and Wabasha Counties. In 1917 he retired and now resides in the village of Mazeppa. He and his wife have been the parents of ten children, Anna, Joseph, Albert, Rudolph, Fred, Edmond, John, Ignatz, Lawrence and George. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Lutheran church. Fred Grossback acquired his education in the district school. From early youth his occupation has been that of a farmer, and until 1907 he worked for his father. He then began on his own account by renting a farm of 135 acres in sections 19 and 30, Mazeppa Township, which he operated for four years. In 1911 he bought this farm of his father, and has since made some improvements on it. He follows general farming and stock raising, and is making satisfactory financial prog-



ress. For a number of years he has been a prominent citizen of his township, which he has served as supervisor for five years, being chairman of the board for two years of that time, a position in which he is still serving. He has also been for two years a member of the school board of district No. 76. He is vice president of the Peoples State Bank of Mazeppa and has been a director of the Mazeppa Shipping Association since it was organized. He is a member of the Lutheran church and, fraternally, of the Modern Woodmen of America. On October 22, 1907, Mr. Grossback was united in marriage with Anna Larson, who was born September 15, 1882, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Larson, who were farming people of Mazeppa Township. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are now deceased, the former dying January 11, 1913, and the latter November 10, 1894. They had seven children: Ella, Lillie, Anna, Mabel, Joseph, Elmer and Reed. To Mr. and Mrs. Fred Grossback three children have been born: Bernice C., on October 10, 1908; Glenn C., September 26, 1910, and Lloyd D., July 8, 1912.

**John M. Delva**, who is operating a good farm of 160 acres in section 20, Chester Township, was born on the farm on which he now lives, April 9, 1889, son of Peter and Margaret (Fleming) Delva. The parents were natives of Germany who came to Minnesota in 1871 and settled immediately in Chester Township, Wabasha County. In 1874 they bought the farm above mentioned, on which they erected a set of buildings, and resided here carrying on general farming until 1886. In that year they bought another farm containing 160 acres in section 8 and 80 acres in section 9, and on the latter place they are still living, engaged in general farming and stock raising. They are members of the Catholic church. Of their family of 11 children, ten are now living, the full list being as follows: Michael, Anna, Clara, Katherine, Elizabeth, John, Nicholas, Joseph, Mary, Peter and Nicholas (second). The first Nicholas died in infancy. John M. Delva acquired his education in the district school and worked for his father until 1915. He then rented the old home farm of 160 acres in section 20, Chester, and has been engaged in its operation, like his father, carrying on general farming and stock raising with profitable results. He is a member of the Catholic church and belongs fraternally to the Knights of Columbus. He was married September 7, 1915, to Clara Frank, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Frank, who are farmers in Goodhue County, Minn. Mrs. Delva was the third born in a family of eight children, namely: Edward, John, Clara, Margaret, Lena, Rose, Katherine and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Delva are the parents of one child: Rosella A., who was born November 7, 1918.

**Charles Devery**, who was formerly engaged for some years in operating a farm in Zumbro Township, and whose family are still residing here, was born in Olmsted County, Minn., March 31, 1859. He was educated in the district school at Farm Hill, that county, and subsequently became an agricultural laborer and carpenter. In 1882 he rented a farm in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, which he operated for two years. He then took a farm at Oronoco, Olmsted County, which he operated for two years, also under rental. In 1886 he returned to Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, moving on to a farm in sections 29 and 30, which he operated under rental for 16 years, carrying on general farming and stock raising, and on which he died July 31, 1901. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and belonged fraternally to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Devery was married March 31, 1882, to Hattie Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Anderson. Her parents were natives of New York state who, on coming to Wabasha County, Minn., settled on a farm in Zumbro Township, which the father actively conducted until 1890, afterwards continuing to reside on it until 1919, when he moved to Hammond. The mother died in 1875. They were members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Their children were: Alonzo D., Hattie, Clark and Wesley. To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Devery five children were born: Grover L., June 1, 1884; Phoebe, March 27, 1888; Harry, March 15, 1894; Edna, September 7, 1896; and Mark, June 11, 1902. Phoebe is now the wife of Lester Mack of Hastings.









MR. AND MRS. JOHN BOSS



Minn., Harry resides in Zumbro Township, and the others are still residing on the home farm with their mother. In 1902 Mrs. Devery bought a tract of 80 acres in section 29, Zumbro Township, and she has also made improvements in the residence and outbuildings. The farm is now operated by the son Grover, who is raising both grain and stock with good financial results. He belongs fraternally to the Modern Woodmen of America.

**William Caswell**, one of the best known citizens of Chester Township, where for 24 years he has been engaged in agriculture, and for much of that time has rendered service as a public official, was born in this township December 14, 1861, son of Cyrus and Margaret (Jenkins) Caswell. The father was born in the state of Ohio and the mother in England. They came to Wabasha County, Minn., settling in Chester Township in 1856, being therefore rightly numbered among the pioneers of the county. Cyrus Caswell died December 10, 1913, his wife having previously passed away in 1910. They had eight children, John, William, Anna, Charles, Grace, Nona, Mary and Pearl, of whom three—Anna, Grace and Nona—are now deceased. William Caswell acquired his education in the district school and was reared on his parents' farm. He worked for his father until 1896, in which year he started in for himself, buying 80 acres in section 28, Chester Township. To this property he later added 40 acres more, making a total of 120 acres. He improved the place by the erection of a good set of buildings and fences, and has his own electric light plant which furnishes light for all his buildings. He has followed general farming and stock raising with success, being now a well to do citizen. His public service includes seven years as treasurer of the town board, three years as supervisor, three years as town clerk, and 15 years as treasurer of the school board of District No. 15, in which last mentioned office he is still serving. Mr. Caswell was united in marriage March 23, 1896, with Jane Krisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Krisher of Chester Township, Mrs. Caswell's father being the former owner of the present Caswell farm. Mr. Krisher now resides in England, N. D., Mrs. Krisher having died in 1887. They were the parents of eight children, William, Dell, Elmer, Lizzie, Nora, Thomas, Lillie and Jane.

**John Boss**, late county auditor of Wabasha County, and for a number of years before his death one of the foremost citizens of the county, was born in the Town of Gillford, Wabasha County, Minn., March 4, 1884, son of Andrew and Janet (Nesbit) Boss. His parents were pioneers of this locality and he spent his boyhood days on the farm where he was born. After attending the public schools he took a course in the Minnesota School of Agriculture, from which he was graduated in the class of 1902. He subsequently engaged in agriculture and resided on his farm near Zumbro Falls until the fall of 1914, when he was elected county auditor and took up his residence in Wabasha. As a public official he proved able and faithful and left behind him a record worthy of emulation. An intensely loyal American, when his country engaged in war to defend the rights of American citizens and the cause of world democracy, he rendered it his whole-hearted service. True, he did not wear the uniform of the army, but he was in a very real sense a soldier of the United States, and faithfully and efficiently performed his strenuous duties as secretary of the local draft board from the time of its organization. While his name will not be printed in the casualty list of those who gave their lives for their country, it surely deserves to be, for it was undoubtedly his close application to the duties of his office and his war work which caused that loss of vitality the want of which rendered him unable to effectively resist the disease that caused his death. An attack of the then prevailing influenza was followed by pneumonia, from which he suffered for a week, and which terminated in his death at about 12 o'clock on the night of Saturday, October 26, 1918. His wife and children, besides other relatives, and a host of personal friends were left to mourn his untimely demise. The funeral, which was necessarily private, was held on Monday, the remains being taken to Lake City and interred in the



cemetery there. Rev. E. D. Gallagher had charge of the services, and the Masonic fraternities of which the deceased was a member attended at the grave. In the death of Mr. Boss the community and the entire county lost one of its most useful and esteemed citizens. He was a man of great strength of character, and when once convinced he was on the right course could not be swayed from it. In a word, he was a clean-living, right-thinking, honest man whose friendship and association were highly prized by those who knew him best. His life's work was short, but he accomplished more in the time allotted to him than many who lived much longer. Though he has passed on before, his memory will long remain as an inspiration to the living. Mr. Boss was united in marriage, at Lake City, Minn., with Louise F. Koehler, who was born February 22, 1888, daughter of Henry J. and Ida (Kuehn) Koehler. They had four children, all of whom are now living, namely: Jean Louise, born August 20, 1908; Amy Jannette, January 10, 1910; Lloyd John, May 21, 1911, and Forest, May 21, 1913. Mr. Boss also left five brothers and two sisters: Mrs. A. H. Lamb, and James and David Boss, of Gillford; Andrew and William Boss of St. Paul; Mrs. J. E. Knight, of Sherwood, Ore., and Alex Boss, who lives in Washington.

Charles Marx, a typical representative of the self-made men of Mazeppa Township, successfully engaged in agriculture on an excellent farm which he has built up, was born in Pepin Township, Wabasha County, son of Matthew and Margaret (Tison) Marx. The parents, who were born in Germany, were pioneer settlers of Wabasha County, coming to this country in the early fifties and settling in Pepin Township. There they spent many years engaged in farming, in early days according to primitive methods, but gradually advancing in prosperity until they were at last able to retire. They are both still living and are residents of Wabasha City. Their children (all living) are Fred, Charles, Mike, Margaret, Nicholas and Mathias. Charles Marx, or "Charlie," as he is more familiarly known, acquired his elementary education in the district school and subsequently attended the Wabasha high school. He was early trained to agriculture on his parents' farm, and until 1898 was associated with his father in its operation. He then started in for himself, buying his present farm of 220 acres in section 19, Mazeppa Township. This property he has improved by the erection of a fine set of buildings, including a good modern residence, electrically lighted. He is engaged in general farming, raising high grade cattle and Poland-China hogs. He is a stockholder in the Peoples State Bank at Mazeppa, also in the Huberty Co-operative Cheese Factory of Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, and was organizer of the Mazeppa Shipping Association and for five years its manager. With the readiness of a good citizen to be of service to the community, Mr. Marx has given a part of his time to public affairs, having served 15 years as chairman of the town board of supervisors, treasurer of Mazeppa Township two years, and for several years as a member of the school board of District No. 76. While living in Pepin Township he served seven years as town assessor. A Catholic in religion, he is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Foresters. Mr. Marx was married June 4, 1900, to Margaret Huberty, who was born October 19, 1878, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Huberty. Her parents were born in Germany and came to the United States in 1866, locating first in Wisconsin, where they remained two years. They then settled in Goodhue County, Minn., where Joseph Huberty farmed successfully for many years. His wife died in 1904, and he now resides with his daughter, Mrs. Marx. He is a member of the Catholic church, as was also his wife. Their children were Margaret, Jacob, John, Lizzie and Katie. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marx have had four children, the first of whom, Dora, was born June 21, 1901, and died September 21 the same year. The surviving children are: Lucy M., born August 27, 1902; Léla M., born January 17, 1904, and Felix J., born October 29, 1905. On August 28, 1920, Lucy M. Marx entered the Notre Dame Convent at Mankato, Minn.





CHARLES MARX AND FAMILY.







**William A. Clemens**, a well known business man of Mazeppa, was born in Zumbrota Township, Goodhue County, Minn., March 19, 1876, son of Peter and Elizabeth (Boulard) Clemens. The father was a native of Luxemburg, and the mother of Illinois. Peter Clemens first came to Minnesota in 1860 from Madison, Wis., but soon returned to that place, and in the first year of the Civil War enlisted in the 14th Wisconsin regiment. He served three years and eight months, taking part in many battles, and was with Sherman in his march to the sea. After receiving an honorable discharge, he came again to Minnesota, and took a farm in Zumbrota Township, Goodhue County, where he followed agriculture until 1893. He then moved to Bear Valley, Chester Township, Wabasha County, and in 1896 to Mazeppa, where he died in the year 1918. His wife died in 1907. Of their seven children three are now living: Frank, of Mazeppa; Anna, wife of Allie Louck, of Motley, Minn., and William A. William A. Clemens was reared on his parents' farm, and in his boyhood attended district school and the Mazeppa public school. He accompanied his parents to town, and for a while followed the trade of a carpenter. For ten years subsequently until July, 1919, he operated a saloon, and since then has been proprietor of a billiard hall, also carrying a line of soft drinks, tobacco, and lunches. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Elks and the United Workmen. Mr. Clemens was married at Mazeppa November 22, 1898, to Edith Arnold, daughter of Andrew and Lena Arnold. Her parents, who were both born in Ohio, were early settlers in Mazeppa Township, this county, where they followed farming. Their family included seven children, one of whom, Bert, is now deceased. The survivors are: Julia, wife of James Stull, of Chester; Charlie, residing in Mazeppa; Edith, wife of W. A. Clemens; Fred, of Portland, Ore.; Wayne, of Albany, Ore.; and Glenn, of North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Clemens have two children living, Mildred and Hazel. Three others are now deceased, Marvin, Norman, and one who died in infancy.

**John H. Plein**, a prominent farmer of Highland Township, residing in section 22, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, June 26, 1870, son of Peter and Kate (Valler) Plein. The father, Peter Plein, was born in the Duchy of Luxemburg and came to America in 1862, locating in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where for a number of years he worked on farms. He then bought a small farm on which he lived and which he operated for half a century, but is now retired and residing with his son John H. He was married to Kate Valler in 1869, and she died in March, 1874. They had six children: John H., Peter, Anna, Lizzie, Katie and Mike. Of these children Katie and Lizzie are now deceased. John H. Plein was reared in Glasgow Township, where he attended district school. He performed farm labor for his father and others until 1895, in which year he started in for himself, buying 160 acres in section 22, Highland Township. He has built a large barn and outbuildings, and installed an electric lighting system for all buildings, the farm and buildings being now in excellent condition. He carries on general farming, raising good cattle and Chester-White hogs, and keeping full-blooded sires at the head of his herds. In religion a Catholic, he belongs to the Old Settlers' Association of Wabasha County; also to the Equitable Fraternal Union, the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Modern Samaritans, of which his wife is also a member. Mr. Plein was first married April 7, 1896, to Lora Umbrecht, who died November 20, 1901. By her he had five children: Alvin B., born March 13, 1897; Ralph J., April 19, 1898; Floyd E., May 22, 1899; Eunice F., July 20, 1900, and Ethel, February 21, 1901. On April 17, 1917, Ralph J. enlisted in the U. S. navy and subsequently made 15 trips across the Atlantic on a U. S. transport vessel. He was discharged in September, 1919, and is now in Minneapolis. Alvin B. enlisted in the army August 15, 1918, in a machine gun company, and was sent to Minnesota University farm, later to Camp Hancock, and then to Camp Dodge, being discharged January 9, 1919. Eunice F. is now Mrs. Hubert Weise



of Plainview Township. Ethel is residing at home. Mr. Plein was married secondly, in 1903, to Ida Maahs and of this union ten children have been born, as follows: Elsie B., April 4, 1904 (died December 23, 1907); Erving J., born July 21, 1905; Johnnie J., July 23, 1906; Francis E., February 13, 1908; Stella A., April 22, 1909; Lawrence A., April 21, 1910; Viola E., July 21, 1911; Florence P., September 29, 1913; Arthur C., April 22, 1915, and Joseph A., June 22, 1918. All the surviving children are residing on the home farm.

**William Herman**, of Zumbro Township, a good type of the enterprising and modern farmer, recently retired, was born in Trempealeau County, Wis., March 16, 1867, son of William and Mary (Springer) Herman. The parents were natives respectively of Germany and Switzerland, who came to the United States in the early fifties, settling in Wisconsin, where the father was engaged in ordinary farm labor for several years. Later he took a homestead in Trempealeau County, but subsequently sold that property and in 1880 came to Minnesota, locating on 120 acres of land in Gillford Township. He improved that place and carried on general farming there until his retirement in 1893, when he and his wife took up their residence at Zumbro Falls. There Mrs. Herman died in 1898 and Mr. Herman in 1903. They had eight children: William, Albert C., Edward, Anna, Lizzie, Fred L., Emil and Ida. Anna and Lizzie are now deceased. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. William Herman (Jr.) in his boyhood attended school at Zumbro Falls. He worked for his father until 1888, and then went to Tacoma, Wash., where for four years he followed the carpenter's trade. In 1892 he returned to Wabasha County, Minn., and for two years rented the home farm of his father. Subsequently he operated other rented farms in this county. In 1907 Mr. Herman bought 120 acres in section 14, 80 acres in sections 11 and 14, and 40 acres in section 11, making a farm of 240 acres, which he operated for 13 years. He erected all the buildings, installed acetylene lights and the James barn equipment, and carried on general farming according to modern methods and with profitable results. He bred high grade Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, having full-blooded sires at the head of his herds. In addition to these interests, Mr. Herman became president of the Zumbro Falls Shipping Association, also of the Zumbro Falls Co-operative creamery, and treasurer of the Farmers Elevator Company of the same place. On October 1, 1920, Mr. Herman retired from the farm and is now living in the Village of Zumbro Falls, where he has bought some village property, including besides the land an old house and building. He has now under construction a new barn and garage and will soon erect a new modern residence. For 12 years he has been chairman of the school board of his district. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church, while he belongs fraternally to the Modern Woodmen of America. On July 9, 1890, Mr. Herman was united in marriage with Matilda Scholer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Scholer. Her parents were natives of Germany who settled in Glasgow Township, this county, later moving to the vicinity of Zumbro Falls. Both are now deceased, the mother having died in Zumbro Falls in 1888 and the father in Chester Township in 1895. Their children were John, Andrew, Edward, Charles, Albert, William, Christie, Rose, Emma, Lena and Matilda. Mr. and Mrs. Scholer were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. William Herman have had ten children, all of whom are now living but one. They are as follows: Edward A., born August 19, 1891; Henry H., born November 10, 1892; Emma D., born March 2, 1894; Esther M., born October 19, 1895, now Mrs. George Reppe of Zumbro Falls; Lydia M., born April 11, 1897, died June 21, 1898; Ethel M., born January 3, 1899, now Mrs. Carl Walker of Olmsted County; Alfred W., born July 23, 1900; Lottie M., born August 26, 1902; Clarence F., born April 9, 1905, and Marian I., born June 23, 1909.

**Amos Fetzer**, who is helping to develop the agricultural resources of Wabasha County, as the owner and operator of a farm of 291 acres in Zumbro





WILLIAM HERMAN AND FAMILY (taken in 1911)







Township, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., November 14, 1875, son of Perry and Martha (Speed) Fetzner. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Maine. They settled in Glasgow Township, this county, in 1865, and spent the rest of their lives there in farming, the father dying in 1896 and the mother in 1910. They were members of the Baptist church. Of their ten children, nine are now living, the full list being as follows: Alice, Anna, Edward, Mamie, Amos, William, Bertha, Susan, Clara and Perry. Edward is now deceased. Amos Fetzner was educated in the district school, and subsequently worked at farm labor until 1896, when he started in for himself by renting a farm in Glasgow Township. On that farm he remained two years, after which he spent eight years on a farm in Hyde Park Township. In 1910 he bought 160 acres in section 31, Zumbro Township, which is a part of his present farm, he having bought the additional 80 acres in 1919. He has erected all the buildings except the residence, and is profitably engaged in general farming, raising good stock. While living in Hyde Park he served five years on the school board of his district, and he has filled a similar position for three years in Zumbro Township. He is a member of the Catholic church and is fraternally affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Fetzner was married March 24, 1896, to Josephine Gilsdorf, daughter of Andrew and Mary (Matier) Gilsdorf, farmers of West Albany Township, this county. Andrew Gilsdorf, the father, came to the United States from Germany about the year 1865, Mrs. Mary Gilsdorf (Mary Matier) coming to this country from France about 1858. She was one of the earliest white women to settle in Wabasha County. At one time she owned 160 acres of land which is now included in the site of the City of St. Paul. She was first married to a Mr. La Point, who died, and she subsequently married Andrew Gilsdorf, whom she survived several years, Mr. Gilsdorf dying in 1890 and she in 1893. They had ten children, Andrew, Edward, Henry, Fred, William, George, Nicholas, Thomas, Josephine and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Fetzner are the parents of three children: Bertha M., born October 30, 1898, now Mrs. Andrew Rosch; Hazel I., born July 15, 1904, and Thomas A., born May 26, 1910.

**Daniel L. Petersen**, who has a worthy record of many years of hard work in the Northwest, is now living retired in the Village of Minnieska, after a life which has been largely devoted to railroad work, teaming and farming. He was born in Sweden, May 3, 1846, son of Daniel and Clara (Pel) Petersen, the former of whom was a carpenter and housebuilder. Young Daniel, as a child, attended the common school and the catechism school, and was duly confirmed in the Swedish Lutheran church. At eight or nine years of age he was hired out to neighboring farms for his board and clothes, gradually being paid small wages, until he was 22 years old when he was receiving \$50 a year in addition to his living and clothing. In 1868 he came to the United States, landed at New York, and then came to Chicago, where he was employed a short time nearby at Rosehill. Then he came by rail to La Crosse, and took a boat to Red Wing, Minn., from there going to Spring Garden in the same county. A year later he went to Mitchell County, Ia., and was there married. His next employment was with the Winona & St. Peter Railroad, living in a tent and moving along with the progress of the work until the present site of Marshall was reached, that village then being in a wild, little settled country. In the fall of 1872 he returned to St. Peter, and there remained until the spring of 1875. Then after a summer at Minneapolis, he came to Minnieska and for four or five years engaged in teaming. Subsequently for many years he farmed in Winona and Wabasha County, all in this vicinity. Then he purchased a good farm in the Whitewater Valley, in Whitewater Township, Winona County. The home farm consisted of 80 acres, but in addition to this, Mr. Petersen owned another tract of 80 acres and another of 120 acres, all in the same county. On the home farm he built a residence and stables, and improved it in many other ways. In 1918 he retired, and built a residence in the Village of Min-



nieska, in which village he had first taken up his residence in 1875. Mr. Petersen was married February 19, 1870, in Mitchell, Mitchell County, Ia., to Anna Louisa Carlson, a boyhood friend, who was born in the same parish as himself, July 29, 1840, and in 1869 came by the same route as himself to Spring Garden, Goodhue County, this state. This union has been blessed with three children, Fred, Edward and Emil. Fred was born in Iowa in 1870, married Della Harris, and works on the home farm. Edward was born in St. Peter, Minn., in 1874, married Minnie Johnson, has a daughter, Eva, born March 25, 1905, and conducts a barbership in Millville, this state. Emil lives on the home farm with his brother. He was born in Minnieska in 1875.

Fred W. Guehlke, who has been a resident of Chester Township for the last 36 years, and is one of its well known and highly esteemed citizens, was born in Posen, Germany, September 5, 1855. He remained in his native land until 29 years old, coming to the United States and to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1884. For seven years after his arrival he rented a farm, and in 1891 bought 120 acres in section 33, Chester Township. On this place he erected the entire set of buildings, and followed general farming and stock raising industriously and successfully until 1918, when he retired from active work, renting the farm to his son Charles. He now resides with his daughter, Mrs. Herman Behm. Mr. Guehlke was married February 1, 1885, the year after he had arrived in this country, to Katherine Nearing, a native of Germany, and they spent 25 happy years of wedlock together, which were brought to an end by Mrs. Guehlke's death on December 15, 1910. They were the parents of seven children: Edward E., born July 29, 1890; Lydia, born May 30, 1892, now the wife of Herman Behm; William, born in February, 1894; John, born June 2, 1896, who served in the late war; Fred, born March 15, 1898; Albert, born December 19, 1904; and Otto, born May 17, 1908, who died when seven weeks old. John Guehlke was drafted June 24, 1918, and sent to Camp Grant, and afterwards to Camp Dix. He left for France September 9, 1918, and served eight months there in the 86th and 78th Divisions, successively. He saw active service for 22 days on the front lines in the Argonne Forest and the Argonne-Meuse sector. He was discharged June 3, 1919. All the members of the Guehlke family have been trained in habits of industry and are useful members of the community in which they reside. The Guehlke farm is productive and well managed.

Louis Ferber, who is extensively engaged in farming in Mazeppa Township, was born in Olmsted County, Minn., October 13, 1893, son of Jacob and Lizzie (Miller) Ferber. The father, Jacob Ferber, was born in Germany and came to America in the early sixties, locating in Goodhue County, Minn. His wife was a native of Wabasha County. After residing for some time in Goodhue he removed to Olmsted County, where he was engaged in farming until a few years ago. He and his wife are both living and now reside in the Village of Oronoco. They are members of the German Lutheran church. Their children were Philip, Minnie, William, Tena, Louis, Anna, Tillie, Albert and Bertha. Louis Ferber acquired his education in the district school and was trained to agriculture on the home farm. Until 1914 he worked for his father, and after that for several years was engaged in farm labor in the vicinity of Mazeppa. On February 25, 1917, he was drafted into the U. S. army and subsequently served 12 months in France, during five months of that time being under fire at the front. He was a member of Company I, 130th Infantry, 33d Division. Escaping casualties, he returned in good health to the United States, and was honorably discharged May 29, 1918. In 1919 Mr. Ferber rented 520 acres in sections 28, 32 and 33, Mazeppa Township, where he now resides, profitably engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was married September 3, 1919 to Emma Mueske, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Mueske of Mazeppa Township. She was born April 27, 1900, in Wabasha County, Minn., and was educated in District School No. 54.



**Michael Sweeny**, a California pioneer who spent the last years of his life in Gillford Township, Wabasha County, and whose widow and several children are now residing here, was born at St. Johns, New Brunswick, October 10, 1827. He resided in his native province until 1852, in which year he came to the Northwestern states, settling in Red Wing, Minn. Three years before, the discovery of gold in California had sent a thrill of excitement throughout the civilized world, and adventurers from almost every country were soon braving the perils of the long and difficult journey to the then almost unknown territory. Mr. Sweeny, too, resolved to try his fortune and joined in the rush to the new El Dorado, which he reached safely. There he became one of the founders of Virginia City, and helped to maintain law and order, being a member of a Vigilant Committee that hanged several notorious characters. In 1864 he set out on his return trip to Minnesota, traveling on foot across the plains to the Mississippi river, and then up the river to St. Anthony Falls, and thence to Fort Garry and Fort Colvin. While in camp on the Yellow Stone river, on his return trip, he and his party were attacked by Indians and three of the party killed and three wounded. It was in 1865 that he reached Goodhue County, Minn., again, and there soon afterward he bought a partly improved farm of 160 acres in Florence Township, which he started to develop. There, too, he met and married Mary A. Wortha, their wedding taking place January 9, 1868. She was born in Bohemia, Austria, May 3, 1847, and had come to the United States at the age of 18 years, arriving in Red Wing, Minn., June 16, 1855. Mr. Sweeny lived on his farm in Florence Township, Goodhue County, until 1884, when he sold the place and moved to Gillford Township, Wabasha County, taking a farm of 175 acres, with good buildings, in section 28. This he cultivated until his death on February 5, 1899. Mr. Sweeny was a Democrat in politics, and a Catholic in religion. He was a liberal supporter of his church and helped to build nearly every Catholic church in Wabasha County. He and his wife had a family of ten children, all of whom were daughters. One of them is deceased and most of the others are married and have homes of their own, but two—Mary F. and Agnes C—have remained at home with their mother, who, since her husband's death, with their assistance, has conducted the farm successfully and has gained a competence. A full list of the daughters is as follows: Helen, born January 31, 1869, now Mrs. Michael Sullivan of West Albany Township; Margaret, born February 1, 1871, who married Emory Atherton and resides in Minneapolis; Mary Ann, born February 12, 1873, deceased; Elizabeth Ann, born August 9, 1875, now Mrs. William Koester of Waucoota, Minn.; Mary Frances, born March 29, 1877, residing on the home farm; Bridget, born September 25, 1879, now Mrs. Harley Dunn of Warroad, Minn.; Agnes Cicely, born February 19, 1881, on the home farm; Clara Josephine, born August 27, 1885, now Mrs. Hoken Johnson of Gillford Township; Rosa Florence, born April 29, 1887, wife of John Krueger of Red Wing, Minn., and Lucy Legoria, born December 14, 1893, now Mrs. Perley Cook of Minneapolis.

**Marion Dewitt**, a well known farmer of Zumbro Township, where he is also serving as justice of the peace, was born in Markesan, Green Lake County, Wis., March 26, 1850, son of Newland and Olive (Guthrie) Dewitt. The parents were natives of New York State who emigrated west to Wisconsin in 1849. The father died in 1868. His wife, who survived him many years, passed away at Napa, California, at an advanced age in 1916. They were the parents of six children: George, now in Rochester; Malinda and Alma, deceased; Marion, who lives in Zumbro Township, this county; James, who lives in New Mexico; and Freeman, deceased. Marion Dewitt acquired his education in Green Lake County, Wis. After becoming industrially active, he was employed two and a half years driving a mule team on government work. Coming to Minnesota in 1871, he found work on a farm in Olmsted County, at the location known as Farm Hill, and remained there two years. In 1873 he



rented a farm in that county, which he operated two years, or until 1875. He then moved to Rochester, where for four years he was engaged in teaming. During the two subsequent years Mr. Dewitt operated a rented farm in Goodhue County. The period from 1881 to 1905 he spent in Rochester working at the carpenter's trade. Then in 1905 he came to Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, and bought 40 acres in section 36, where he is now residing, engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has erected most of the present buildings on his land. He is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church, and as a reliable citizen and justice of the peace is widely known and respected. Mr. Dewitt was married November 9, 1874, to Alice Welch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Welch. Her parents were natives of New York State who came to Minnesota in 1870, and were subsequently engaged in farming in Olmsted County until their retirement in 1874. They then took up their residence in Rochester, where Mr. Welch died July 2, 1903, and Mrs. Welch in 1877. They had but one child, Alice, who, as already mentioned, became the wife of Marion Dewitt. She died March 27, 1897, leaving four children: Clinton, born November 6, 1875, who is a resident of Rochester; Delia, born February 22, 1877, now Mrs. A. F. Hummerson of Minneapolis; Ervin, born January 7, 1880, who lives at Great Falls, Mont., and Abbie, born September 5, 1883, who is the wife of Alva Waggy of Cresco, Ia. On October 9, 1905, Marion Dewitt was united in marriage with Mary A. Steadman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Steadman. Her parents were natives of England who came to America in 1856, settling first in New York State, whence they came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1863. They made their home thereafter in Zumbro Township, where Mrs. Steadman died in October, 1883, and Mr. Steadman in 1903.

**Joseph Witte**, whose enterprise along agricultural lines has given him a prominent place among the successful farmers of Glasgow Township, was born in this township, August 26, 1872, son of Theodore and Anna (Laqua) Witte. His mother dying not many weeks after his birth, he was reared by his father and stepmother, the father having contracted a second marriage with Margaret Weber. He acquired a common school education and was his father's assistant on the home farm until the fall of 1899, when he began farming on his own account on the place where he now resides—a farm of 250 acres in sections 8, 9 and 14 in Glasgow Township. One hundred and twenty acres of his land is now under cultivation, the rest being in timber and pasture, and the farm is provided with a fairly good set of buildings, Mr. Witte having remodeled the house and made some other improvements. He is doing diversified farming, breeding pure-blooded Scotch Top cattle, besides a good grade of hogs. His operating equipment includes a Maxwell car. Aside from his business interests, Mr. Witte has served as school clerk three years, and is a member and director of the Knights of Columbus lodge of Wabasha. Politically he is a Democrat.

**Theodore Witte**, one of the capable farmers who assisted in developing the agricultural resources of Glasgow Township, was born in Germany in 1842. In early manhood he learned the baker's trade, which he followed in his native land, and, after coming to America, for about two years in St. Paul, Minn. In or about the year 1868 he came to Wabasha County and engaged in farming in Glasgow Township, an occupation in which he won success. He owned 320 acres in Glasgow and 100 in West Albany Township, and continued to reside on his farm until his death, May 17, 1905. Mr. Witte was twice married, first to Anna Laqua, who was, like himself, a native of Germany. She died in the fall of 1872 leaving one child, Joseph, now a prosperous farmer in Glasgow Township. His second marriage was to Margaret Weber, and by her he had seven children: Paul, now of Hankinson, N. D.; Mary, now Mrs. George Roemer of St. Paul; Elizabeth, wife of John Wallerich of Glasgow Township; Margaret, who resides in Wabasha; Theodore William, of Manda, N. D.; Henry A., of Rockland, Wash., and Leo, a farmer of Glasgow Township. Mr. Witte served



as a member of the school board, both in Glasgow and West Albany Townships, in politics being a Democrat. In religion he was of the Catholic faith, belonging for some time to St. Mary's parish of West Albany, and later to St. Felix parish, Wabasha. Mr. Witte was married September 12, 1911, to Clara B., daughter of Nicholas and Wilhelmina Zierdt of Wabasha, Minn., but who was born at Alma, Wis., April 15, 1881. Of this union six children have been born: Wilhelmine Margaret, October 22, 1912; Joseph Earl, March 23, 1914; Anna Bernita, August 31, 1915; Marion Elizabeth November 11, 1916; William Nicholas, March 8, 1918, and Clara Isabel, April 21, 1920. Mr. Witte and his family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Felix parish at Wabasha.

**Leo Witte**, who is identified with the agricultural interests of Glasgow Township as a farmer and stock raiser, was born in this township August 23, 1888, son of Theodore and Margaret (Weber) Witte. He acquired his elementary education in the common and parochial schools and subsequently attended St. John's University in Stearns County, Minn. Brought up to agricultural pursuits, he naturally became his father's assistant, and after his father died, in 1904, he remained on the home farm with his mother, operating it for her up to the fall of 1914, when she took up her residence in Wabasha. He then leased the farm from her and has since conducted it on his own account. It contains 160 acres and is nicely situated in Trout Brook Valley, sections 5 and 8, Glasgow Township. Of the total area 70 acres are under cultivation and the buildings and equipment are good. Mr. Witte is engaged in diversified farming and gives special attention to stock raising, being a breeder of pure blooded Shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep and Red Duroc hogs. He is doing a paying business and is a man well known and respected throughout this part of Wabasha County. On October 21, 1913, he was married to Gladys Borst, who was born in Lake City April 22, 1891, daughter of Horace and Lucinda (Schmidt) Borst of Pepin Township. Mr. and Mrs. Witte are the parents of three children: Dorothy Margaret, born July 23, 1914; Robert Emery, March 31, 1916, and Florence Marie, December 3, 1918. Mr. Witte and his family are of the Catholic faith and are members of St. Felix parish, Wabasha. He belongs also to the Knights of Columbus, and in politics is independent.

**John J. Luhmann**, a recent arrival in Zumbro township, where he has begun farming operations, is a native of Wabasha County, having been born in Gillford Township June 7, 1883, son of Peter and Lena (Minkow) Luhman. The father came to Minnesota from Germany in the early sixties. The mother was born in Illinois. They were married in Wabasha County and located on a farm of 140 acres near Belvidere, Goodhue County. Later they removed to Gillford Township, Wabasha County, where Peter Luhman operated a farm until his death in 1915. The farm is still owned by his widow and is operated by their son Peter, who was one of 11 children, the full list being: Mary, Katherine, John J., Clara, Harry, Emma, Caroline, Peter, Alice, Elvina Anna and Lillie. All are now living except Elvina. The family are members of the Lutheran church. John J. Luhman was educated in the district school and worked for his father and the neighbors until 1909. After that for three years he rented a farm in Goodhue County. In 1912 he removed to a rented farm in Gillford Township, Wabasha County, which he operated four years, and from 1916 to 1919 he operated another rented farm in Olmsted County. In the year last mentioned he came to his present farm of 160 acres in section 31, Zumbro Township, and has made a good start as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has planned building operations in the near future. Mr. Luhman was married September 30, 1909, to Alvina Damman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Damman of Zumbrota. Of this union six children have been born: Mildred, August 1, 1910; Alfred, December 4, 1912; Elmer, April 22, 1914; John, April 17, 1915; Elnora, February 18, 1917, and Wilmer, June 15, 1919. The family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. John Damman, the parents



of Mrs. Luhman, were natives of Germany who came to America in 1873, settling in Goodhue County, Minn., where they engaged in farming on 160 acres of land, Mr. Damman building a house and outbuildings. In 1918 they retired and now live in Zumbrota. They had had ten children: William, Margaret, John, Rose, Minnie, Clara, Sarah, Hulda, Fred and Alvina. Like the Luhmans, the Dammans are affiliated religiously with the Lutheran church.

**Charles E. Young**, now numbered among the active and enterprising farmers of Zumbro Township, was born at Eagle Point, Chippewa County, Wis., December 16, 1894, son of Grant Alba and Grace (Rose) Young. The father was a native of New Hampshire and the mother of Wisconsin. Grant Young came to Wisconsin in 1886 and for about five years owned and operated a flour mill. In 1901 he went to Eagle Point, Wis., where he built a store and elevator, operating both until 1910. He then sold out his interests there and removed to Chippewa Falls, where he was president and manager of the Farmers Produce & Elevator Co. until 1914. Since that time he has been engaged in the real estate business in Minneapolis and St. Paul. In 1920 he bought a residence at San Diego, Calif., where he and his wife are now living. They are the parents of five children: Arthur, Charles, Lester, Ella and Ruth. The family are connected religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church. Charles E. Young in his boyhood attended school at Chippewa Falls, Wis., and later the high school in South Minneapolis. In Minneapolis he also took a night course in the Central High School, a course in a business college, and also a course in an engineering school. For two years he worked for his father as bookkeeper, drove a car for the Land Lumber Co. one year, and was engaged in logging in Wisconsin for two years. Then for one year he operated a rented farm at Park Falls, Wis., and afterwards for two years was engaged in agricultural work at Beaver, Minn. In 1919 he bought 165 acres in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County (section 34), where he is now residing and carrying on business as a general farmer, raising grain and stock and some garden produce. He is planning early improvements on his place, including the erection of a barn, silo and windmill. Mr. Young was married July 10, 1915, to Mary Altmann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgang Altmann, of Butternut, Wis. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Helen E., born October 28, 1916, and Evelyn R., born April 15, 1918.

**William S. Johnson**, a member of the firm of Bade & Johnson, proprietors of Trout Brook Stock Farm in Glasgow Township, was born in this township May 16, 1884, son of Knute and Laura (Steenerson) Johnson. The parents were natives of Norway and early settlers in Wabasha County. William D. acquired a good practical education, attending District School No. 3 in Pepin Township, and afterward for four years the Wabasha High School, while a pupil there being a member of the football team. He remained on the home farm on Pepin Hill until his marriage October 25, 1911, to Anna M. Churchill, who was born in Wabasha, March 24, 1890, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Scott Churchill. Then for two years he rented the Asplund farm in Lake Township. In 1913 Mr. Johnson, with his brother, Lloyd, bought 92 acres near Wabasha, and operated that farm for two years, at the end of which time he sold it and moved to Wabasha, where he resided until the spring of 1919. He then bought 161 acres of land in sections 6 and 7, Glasgow Township, in the locality known as Trout Brook Valley, 120 acres of it being improved. It was also provided with a good two-story frame house of modern construction. In the same year he entered into a partnership with Fred Bade and the Bade & Johnson Stock Farm was founded. Diversified farming is followed, but the main purpose of the farm is fine stock raising, a business which Mr. Bade had been following for some years previously. The combined farms contain 465 acres, and at present the firm has a herd of 64 Shorthorn cattle, at the head of which is "Irish Poplin," an imported sire which cost \$10,000. They have also made some progress in the breeding of pure blood Duroc swine. Suitable quarters have been provided for





MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM S. JOHNSON.







the stock, and Fred McNichol, an experienced herdsman, is in direct charge. The business is on a paying basis, with bright future prospects, and the firm of Bade & Johnson is becoming well known in stock circles. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of three children: Avis Clare, born October 21, 1912; Eleanor Ann, born February 3, 1916, and William Seward, born October 24, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Congregational church at Wabasha. In politics he is a Republican. Eugene Scott Churchill, father of Mrs. William S. Johnson, was born in Illinois, September 9, 1849. He was married to Emma Brown December 30, 1881, and they became the parents of four children: Walter Scott, now deceased; Warner G., who is living in Wabasha; Anna M., now Mrs. W. S. Johnson; and Reta May, who is a nurse in the State Hospital at Phalen Park, Minneapolis.

**Bernhardt Hager**, a member of the popular mercantile firm of Hager & Markus at Dumfries, Glasgow Township, was born in this township March 25, 1878, son of Herman and Mary (Kelter) Hager. Both parents were natives of Germany, in which country the father had been previously married. His first wife dying, he came to America, and to Wabasha County, Minn., where he married Mary Kelter, and they settled on a farm in Glasgow Township, which they made their home for the rest of their lives, Herman Hager dying in 1912, and Mrs. Mary Hager February 6, 1920. They had seven children: Bernhardt, the subject of this sketch; Louisa, now Mrs. William Riester of Greenfield Township; George, a prosperous farmer in the same township; Joseph, who is deceased; William, residing on the home farm in Glasgow Township; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Harry Austin, who is on the home farm; and Arthur, also residing there. Bernhardt Hager was educated in the district school, and remained at home until the age of 22. After that he worked as a farm hand, operated the cream skimming sation at Dumfries for four years, and then became buyer and manager at Dumfries for the Western Elevator Co. of Winona, which position he held up to 1914 in the employ of that company, and for two years in that of their successors, the R. E. Jones Co., who bought out the business. In 1907 Mr. Hager entered into the mercantile business at Dumfries with A. V. Stamschror, being for seven years subsequently a member of the firm of Hager & Stamschror. In 1914 Mr. Stamschror sold his interest to Peter L. Markus of Highland Township, and since then the business has been carried on under the style of Hager & Markus. The firm deals in groceries and general merchandise, and are buyers and shippers of cream. They have the only store in Dumfries and have built up a thriving business. Mr. Hager is a Democrat politically and for two years served as town clerk. He was married October 18, 1904, to Louisa, daughter of Bernard and Theresa Schmidt of Glasgow Township, and owns a comfortable home at Dumfries. To him and his wife five children have been born: Leo B., October 14, 1905; Rocelia Theresa, March 30, 1907; Margaret Louise, April 20, 1909; Florence Caroline, October 4, 1911; and Dorothy Christine, October 28, 1918. Mr. Hager is a Catholic in religious faith, he and his family belonging to St. Felix parish at Wabasha.

**John E. Brown**, who settled at an early day in Glasgow Township, where he developed several good farms, was born in England. He came to America with his parents in the sixties, when about nine years of age. His father died in this country. The mother had but little money, but was able to buy 160 acres of wild land and build a small log house, where John E. spent his youthful days, growing up on the farm. He learned from necessity how to do the various farm chores and as he grew older became a practical farmer, acquainted with all the mysteries of crop production and stock raising. In time he became his own master, and started out on an agricultural career which proved very successful, becoming the owner of several farms in this section which, to a large extent, he developed. He also took a prominent part in the affairs of his township and county, in politics being aligned with the Republican party. Religiously he was affiliated with the Presbyterian church of Wabasha. In the



winter of 1914-15 Mr. Brown moved to Long Beach, Calif., where he has since made his home. He was married in Lake City to Nancy McFarland of Plum City, Wis., by whom he had 12 children, namely: Anna, William (first), Mary, John C., Douglass, Margaret, Jeanette and William (second), who were twins, Walter, Lou, Ruth and Corine. The first William died at the age of nine years and William second at the age of ten. Margaret died at the age of 18.

**John C. Brown**, who with his brother, Douglas, operated his father's farm, formerly known as the Tobin Farm, one mile west of Dumfries, in Glasgow Township, was born in So. Dakota, November 18, 1883, son of John E. and Nancy (McFarland) Brown. He acquired his elementary education in the common school and subsequently attended the Lake City Business College for a year, from 1902 to 1903. In 1909 he homesteaded 160 acres near Shelby, Mont., a property which he still owns. In that state he remained until 1914, when he returned to Glasgow Township, Wabasha County. He resides on the farm with his brother, Douglas, where they have separate residences. They operate their father's farm, giving special attention to the raising of pure blooded Shorthorn cattle, though they also raise other stock and crops. The farm is a good one, adequately supplied with buildings and operating equipment, and the "Brown Bros." are prosperous. John C. Brown was married February 15, 1913, to Ethel Eickmeyer, daughter of Elmer and Amelia Eickmeyer of Kalispell, Mont. He and his wife have two children: Lawson, born August 15, 1915, and Helen, born October 24, 1916. Mr. Brown and his family are affiliated religiously with the Federated Congregation of M. E. churches, Wabasha, Minn. Politically he is a Republican.

**Douglas Brown**, a prosperous farmer of Glasgow Township, who is associated in agricultural work with his brother, John C., was born near Dumfries, this township, July 5, 1885, son of John E. and Nancy (McFarland) Brown. He was educated mainly in the common school, but also spent one winter in a business college. Up to 1912 he remained on his parents' farm, and then in that year went to Callaway, on the Blue Earth Reservation, near Detroit, Minn., where he established himself in the elevator business, buying and shipping grain. There he remained four years, when he sold out and returned to Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, and became associated with his brother, John C., in the operation of their father's farm one mile west of Dumfries. The farm is operated under the name of "Brown Bros." and they are breeders of pure blooded Shorthorn cattle, besides doing general farming. They are enjoying a successful career and are prominent citizens of Glasgow Township. Douglas Brown was married January 15, 1911, to Karibel Borst, who was born in Pepin Township, this county, August 1, 1891, daughter of Horace and Charlotte (Schmidt) Borst. They have one child, Eleanor, who was born December 18, 1915. Mr. Brown is a member of Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14, A. F. & A. M., at Wabasha. In politics he is a Republican.

**Louis Holst**, who was for a number of years engaged in farming in Plainview Township, but is now residing in the environs of Winona, was born in Mechlenburg, Germany, June 27, 1862, son of Christ and Louisa (Rott) Holst. He was educated in his native land and came to America with his parents, the family settling in 1887 near Beaver, Winona County, Minn. The next year, being then 25 years old, he rented 200 acres in Watopa Township, Wabasha County, and did general farming there until 1891. His next move was to buy 240 acres in section 29, Plainview Township, where he put up a new set of buildings, including a house, barn, granary, other outbuildings, and a windmill, in time developing the place into a fine and profitable farm, which he worked to good advantage, until November, 1919. He then sold his farm to Miller Bolton of Plainview and removing to Winona, bought 22 acres of land within the city limits, where he engaged in truck farming. His son, Lewis, has recently taken over 20 acres of the farm and will carry on the truck farming business. Mr. Holst has retired, retaining two acres of the farm on which he









FRANK H. TUPPER AND FAMILY.



has erected a new residence for his own occupancy. He is a member of the Old Settlers' Association of Elgin, and in religion is a German Lutheran. Mr. Holst was united in marriage June 9, 1888, with Marie Schwaak, who was born in Germany February 16, 1864, and came to the United States in 1887. Six children have been the issue of this marriage, as follows: Ella, born February 13, 1889, now Mrs. W. C. Eggers, of Dover, Minn.; Hulda, born February 21, 1892, wife of Henry Haas of Quincy Township, Olmsted County; Marie, born December 21, 1894, wife of W. F. Sell of Plainview; Helen E., born January 20, 1896, who died March 2, 1896; Lewis A., born December 3, 1899, now residing at home; and Lydia A., born December 6, 1902, who died August 21, 1915. Lewis was married September 29, 1920, to Arlene Wenke of Midway, Wis.

**Albert W. Haggerty**, farmer and stock raiser and manager of the shipping association at Hammond, was born in Farmington Township, Olmsted County, Minn., April 22, 1879, son of Joseph R. and Jane (Bailey) Haggerty. The father was born in New Jersey, whence he came to Minnesota in 1856, among the pioneers. He was married in this state and settled on a homestead in Olmsted County. The mother came to the United States when nine years old, locating with her parents near Manchester, Iowa. From there they came to Minnesota in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Haggerty had a family of nine children, of whom six are now living, the others dying when young. Those living are: Andrew R., of Rochester; Euphemia J., who resides on the home farm with her mother; Aaron B., residing in Yuba, Calif.; John A., who lived on a farm in Olmsted County; Bailey A., also a resident of Olmsted County; and Albert W., of Hammond. Joseph R. Haggerty, the father, died July 12, 1883. His wife is still living on the farm, being now 88 years old. Albert W. Haggerty was reared on the home farm and acquired his education in the district school and the high school at Rochester. Agriculture was his occupation out of school hours and he subsequently farmed the old homestead, on which he still lives, and carries on general farming and stock raising, breeding registered Percheron horses, registered Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs and Shropshire sheep. For several years he has shipped all his own stock, and also bought stock in Hammond. He is now manager of the shipping association here, which was organized August 24, 1918. Formerly he was for one year assessor of his township. Mr. Haggerty was married in Olmsted County in 1901 to Emma R. Kenitz, daughter of Herman and Elizabeth (Schacht) Kenitz. Her family came to the United States from Germany, locating first in Chicago, whence they removed to Wisconsin, from which state they came to Minnesota at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Haggerty are the parents of two children: Aaron K., born June 6, 1905, and Jenette, born December 6, 1917. Aaron K. is attending school at Rochester, while Jenette is residing at home. Mr. Haggerty is a man of high standing in the community, a good business man and farmer, and a reliable and patriotic citizen. He has been identified during his active career with the leading interests in Wabasha County, that which has brought it wealth, and he, himself, has participated in the general prosperity of the agricultural class of which he is a typical representative.

**Frank H. Tupper**, a prominent farmer of Mazeppa Township, was born in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, Minn., September 15, 1876, son of Ezra and Emma (Witter) Tupper. Ezra Tupper, the father, was born in New York State, but removed in 1866 to Wisconsin, of which state his wife was a native. Later he came to Minnesota and settled in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, where he farmed until 1876. He then removed to Mazeppa Township, buying 80 acres of land in section 31, and more later until he had in all 222 acres. On his farm he erected a set of buildings, and operated it until 1897. His wife Emma Witter Tupper, to whom he was married in Wabasha, died November 27, 1919, and Mr. Tupper now resides in Olmsted County. As an early settler of Wabasha County he is well known, and his personal record



makes him equally respected. He is a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted at the age of 18 years in Company E, Third Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the First Division of the 20th Army Corps. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea, and served until the close of the war. For 15 years he was a supervisor on the Mazeppa town board, and for 20 years a member of the school board of his district. He and his wife favored the Methodist Episcopal church. Their children were Altha, Nettie, Frank H., Mertie and Pearl. Frank H. Tupper was educated in the district school. Reared on his parents' farm, he early acquired a knowledge of agriculture in its different branches and proved well adapted to the business, in which he has made a success. After working for his father until 1897, he took charge of the home farm, his father retiring, and he has since carried it on as a general farmer, raising grain, stock and other agricultural products. He is a member of the school board of his district, and belongs fraternally to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Tupper was married May 28, 1902, to Elizabeth Hoffman, daughter of Theodore and Mary (Claus) Hoffman. Of this union six children have been born: Ezra L., March 16, 1903; Donald E., May 31, 1905; Ruby H., June 19, 1909; Kenneth R., June 8, 1911; Gordon W., July 18, 1913, and F. Gerald, September 1, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Hoffman, the parents of Mrs. Tupper, were born in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, and came to America when young people, being married at Lake City, Minn. From that place they moved to Goodhue County, and from there to Olmstead County, where for a number of years they were prosperous farmers. They were members of the Catholic church. Mr. Hoffman died April 2, 1906, and Mrs. Hoffman, January 19, 1894. Their children were John F., George B., Frank P., Nicholas, Edward, Elizabeth, Celia and Matthew. The last mentioned, Matthew Hoffman, enlisted for service in the world war, at Rochester, Minn., May 31, 1917, in Company D, 2d Minnesota regiment, and left Rochester for Camp Cody, September 27, 1917. He left Camp Cody for Camp Merritt, June 28, 1918; was later transferred to Company F, 307th Infantry, and sailed for France June 28, landing July 15. He was over there ten months, and as a member of the American Expeditionary Forces went through the following named battles: Baccarat sector, July 21 to August 4; Vesle sector, August 11 to August 25; Oise-Aisne sector offensive, August 18 to September 16; Meuse-Argonne offensive, September 26 to 29. He arrived in the United States, April 30, 1919, and was discharged May 18, 1919.

George K. Baskin, station agent at Hammond for the C. M. & St. P. Railway, was born in Eau Galle, Wis., in February, 1870, son of William and Margaret A. (Kirk) Baskin. The parents were natives of the same town or district in the Province of Quebec, whence the father came as a single man to Eau Galle, Wis., at an early date. For a number of years he was employed in a sawmill by the well known lumber firm of Carson & Rand. The rest of his life subsequently was spent in farming in Dunn County, except the last few years, after his retirement, when he resided in Menomonie. It was there that he died in 1917. His wife Margaret, to whom he was married in Red Wing, Minn., is still living in Menomonie, Wis. They were the parents of 12 children, five of whom are living: Burt, of Hudson, Wis.; Garfield, of Minneapolis; Clayton, of Newberg, N. D.; Ella, residing at home with her mother, and George K., of Hammond, Minn. Those deceased are Will, Thomas, Harold, Edward, Mary, Bertie and Maggie. George K. Baskin was reared on his parents' farm and acquired his education in the district school. He remained on the farm until the age of 19, and then entered the lumber trade, working in the woods in winter and in sawmills in summer. In 1906 he came to Millville, Minn., as station agent for the C. M. & St. P. Railway, and remained there two years. At the end of that time he came to Hammond to take his present position as station agent here, which he has filled for 12 years in a manner satisfactory to the company and also to the patrons of the road, among whom he is popular.



Fraternally he belongs to the Beavers (in Wisconsin) and to the O. R. T. He has served as trustee on the village board for the last six years. Mr. Baskin was married in 1903, at Wabasha, Minn., to Lena Heise, daughter of Christ and Bertha Heise. Her parents were natives of Germany who settled on a farm in Wabasha County, near Lake City, but are now deceased. They had five children, of whom four are now living: Fred of Red Wing; Ella, wife of Peter Caspari of Lake City; George, residing on the old homestead, and Lena. Mr. and Mrs. Baskin are the parents of five children, Evelyn, Lawrence, Raymond, Howard and Harold. All are residing at home except Lawrence, who is attending high school in Wabasha.

**Henry J. Krause**, now living retired in Mazeppa, after a successful agricultural career, was born in Lowell, Dodge County, Wis., May 10, 1870. His parents, John G. and Augusta (Arndt) Krause, were born in Prussia, Germany, and came to the United States, when single, in 1866, John G. Krause locating at Watertown, Jefferson County, where he worked on a farm until his marriage. He and his wife then settled near Lowell, where he bought a farm. This he subsequently traded for a farm near Pine Island, Goodhue County, Minn., to which locality the family removed in 1875. There he followed farming for the rest of his life, passing away April 1, 1918. His wife died March 15, 1909. They had five children, all of whom are now living, namely: Henry, of Mazeppa; Emil, who lives on a farm in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County; Lydia, wife of Frank Schleip, of New York; Louise, wife of Ed Adler of Pine City, Minn., and Ida, wife of George King, of Pine Island Township, Goodhue County. Henry J. Krause was about five years old when he accompanied his parents to Goodhue County, Minn. He attended district school in Pine Island Township, and on his parents' farm acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture. In August, 1892, he bought a farm in that township and for 25 years subsequently was there engaged in carrying on general farming and stockraising, with profitable results. On September 23, 1917, he moved to Mazeppa, where he has since resided, enjoying a well earned leisure, his farm being rented to a tenant. While living in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, he served three years as a member of the board of supervisors, and for one year as chairman of the board. Mr. Krause was married in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, March 15, 1892, to Anna M. Lueck, daughter of William and Anna (Brunkhurst) Lueck. Her parents, natives of Germany, came to this country about 1868, residing in New York State three years, and then coming to Minnesota. After arriving in this state, they first located at Lake City, from which place they removed to a farm in Hay Creek, Goodhue County, and from there to a farm in Pine Island Township in the same county. There Mrs. Anna Lueck died in 1882. Her husband surviving her 30 years, passing away on August 10, 1912. They had four children, all except Anna M. now living in Pine Island Township, namely: William, Minnie, and Frederick. Minnie is the wife of Edward Klingsporn. Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Krause are the parents of one child, Minnie A., born June 30, 1893, who is now the wife of Fred Tewes, and lives on the home farm in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County.

**Joseph Larson**, an enterprising and prosperous farmer of Mazeppa Township, where he is carrying on agricultural and stock raising operations in association with his brother Elmer, was born in this township, December 14, 1883, son of Andrew and Christina (Johnson) Larson. Andrew Larson, the father, was born in Sweden, January 6, 1842. His wife Christina was a native of Norway. They came to the United States in the early sixties, settling in Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, Minn. Before he took a farm of his own, however, Andrew Larson worked for about 12 years as a farm laborer. He subsequently bought land at intervals until he owned 600 acres situated in sections 21, 27 and 28, Mazeppa Township. Some of this he cleared, besides erecting a set of buildings. He continued to work for others, however, until a



few years before his death, which occurred January 11, 1913. His wife died November 10, 1894. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their children were Ella, Lillian, Reed, Anna, Joseph, Elmer, Clara and Mabel. All are living except Clara, who died March 12, 1893. Joseph Larson was educated in the district school and worked for his father until the latter's death. Having received some land from his father, he bought some more and now owns 225 acres in sections 27 and 28, Mazeppa Township, residing on the old home farm. He has improved the property by the erection of a barn, silo and other outbuildings, the residence, yard and barns being electrically lighted. The Larson brothers are prosperously engaged in general farming, feeding a large amount of stock, and are now branching out into the breeding of pure blood Hereford cattle. One of the leading citizens of his township, Joseph Larson has served six years on the board of supervisors. He was married March 21, 1911, to Clara Rucker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rucker, of Oronoco, Minn. He and his wife have two children: Roger A., born June 4, 1916, and Lorena M., born April 2, 1919.

**Elmer Larson**, who is engaged in farming with his brother Joseph in Mazeppa Township, was born in this township, May 19, 1885, son of Andrew and Christina (Johnson) Larson. He acquired his education in the district school, and like his brother Joseph, worked a number of years for his father. Coming into possession of land on his parents' death, he has since increased his holdings, and now owns 385 acres in sections 27, 28 and 21, Mazeppa Township. He and his brother Joseph live together and operate their farms in business association, being equal owners of the stock, horses and machinery. They have fine buildings, and have acquired a reputation for industry and enterprise, which qualities have placed them among the well to do citizens of their township. They are religiously affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Henry Ahlers**, a general farmer who is operating a good farm of 230 acres in Glasgow Township, was born in Westphalia, Germany, October 31, 1885, son of Martin and Mary (Kors) Ahlers. Given only a limited common school education, he was bound out at the age of 12 years by his father to a farmer, and thus early acquired a knowledge of agriculture. In 1910 he came alone to Wabasha County, Minnesota, where he had a brother, Herman, living. For two years he worked out as a farm hand during the summers, cutting cordwood in the winters. On November 7, 1912, Mr. Ahlers married Mary Stamschror, who was born on the farm in Glasgow Township, on which Mr. Ahlers now lives, in 1890, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Stamschror. The first year after his marriage Mr. Ahlers rented his father-in-law's farm, situated in sections 10 and 11. In 1913 he bought it and has since made his home there. It contains 230 acres, and is provided with a comfortable residence. When it came into his possession the other buildings were poor, but he has improved the property by erecting a modern barn, 36 by 72 by 16 feet, with a full eight-foot stone basement for cattle and horses. It has a cement floor and is provided with a modern equipment. He also built a silo, 14 by 30 feet, of 100-ton capacity, a steel windmill and other necessary buildings. The farm is well stocked with high grade Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, and Shropshire sheep, and Mr. Ahlers' equipment includes a Dodge touring car. From a young man with a capital of \$60 Mr. Ahlers has risen to be one of the most prosperous farmers of his township and is highly esteemed as a man and citizen. The latter he became in the late spring of 1920, when he received his final papers of naturalization. He and his wife have been the parents of five children, the youngest of whom died in infancy. The survivors are: Margaret A., born August 30, 1913; Helen E., born June 4, 1915; Joseph C., born March 9, 1917, and John G., born September 9, 1918. The Ahlers family are Catholics in religion and members of St. Felix parish.

**Anton Stamschror**, a retired farmer residing on a farm in sections 10 and 11, Glasgow Township, which formerly belonged to his brother Henry, was



born in Westphalia, Germany, March 22, 1849, son of Arnold and Gertrude Stamschor. In his boyhood he attended the common school up to the age of 14 and until 1880 lived on a farm in Germany. In that year he came to Minnesota, settling in Glasgow Township, where his brother Henry was already living, and with him he took up his residence. Having no money, he worked six years for his brother, at the end of which time he bought the farm, which he subsequently operated successfully until 1913, when he sold it to his son-in-law, Henry Ahlers, but is still residing on it. Through industry and good management Mr. Stamschor acquired a competence and is now well to do. He was married, October 25, 1887, to Elizabeth Wolfe, a native of Hanover, Germany, who came to America with two brothers, Garrett and Clem. To Mr. and Mrs. Stamschor six children were born, two of whom died in infancy. The others were: Anna, now Mrs. George Hager, of Kellogg, Minn.; Mary, wife of Henry Ahlers; Charles, of Kellogg, and John, who is deceased. Mrs. Elizabeth Stamschor died on the farm in 1895. Mr. Stamschor is a Catholic in religious faith and a member of St. Felix parish at Wabasha, in which city his brother is now living.

**Albert J. Klassen**, proprietor of a farm of 320 acres in Highland Township, of which he is a prominent citizen, was born in Chicago, Ill., February 9, 1872, son of Jake and Margaret (Mittes) Klassen. The father was born in Russian Germany, January 23, 1837, and came to America in 1867, settling in Chicago. He was married to Margaret Mittes July 25, 1868. After a continued residence in Chicago until 1875, they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, and engaged in farming. Mrs. Klassen is now deceased, but Mr. Klassen is still living and resides with his son Albert J. They had seven children, John, Albert J., Lizzie, Theodore, Katie, Matthew and Mary. John, Lizzie, Theodore and Matthew are now deceased. Albert J. Klassen was educated in the school of his district in Highland Township. Until reaching the age of 25 years he worked for his father, and then, in 1897, began farming for himself, buying 80 acres in section 22, Highland. On this land he erected his present residence, also a good barn 40 by 76 feet, and outbuildings. In 1905 he purchased 80 acres in section 32, and in 1915 160 acres in section 27, thus bringing his farm up to an area of 320 acres, which he is now cultivating as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has made good progress and is numbered among the well to do citizens of his township. Religiously a Catholic, he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Foresters, and the Old Settlers' Association of Wabasha County. Mr. Klassen was married September 25, 1896, to Katherine Maahs, and they have had six children, as follows: Elmer, born in 1897 on a farm in Highland Township, who married Viola Wise and has one child, Donald; Clarence C., born August 1, 1898; Felix, October 15, 1899; Leo, December 21, 1900; Helen, December 21, 1902, and Christina, April 27, 1903. The five younger children are residing on the home farm. The Klassen family are well known in Highland Township and the vicinity and are popular socially.

**Henry H. Herman**, a general farmer and stock raiser of Zumbro Township, a member of a well known and respected family, was born in Tacoma, Washington, November 10, 1892, son of William and Matilda (Scholar) Herman. The father was a native of Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, who came to Wabasha County with his parents in 1880. The mother was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Scholar, who were early settlers in Glasgow Township. After returning in 1892 from Tacoma, Wash., where he had spent four years, William Herman engaged in farming in Gillford Township, but since 1907 has been proprietor of a large and finely equipped farm in Zumbro Township. Henry H. Herman was educated in the district school and worked for his father until 1917. He then rented 187 acres in section 24, Zumbro Township, a farm which he has since operated, doing diversified farming and stock raising. He expects to move to his father's farm in the fall of 1920. On September 29, 1917, he was united in marriage with Mina E. Pencille, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wil-



liam D. Pencille, of Zumbro Township. He and his wife are the parents of one child, William H., who was born July 5, 1920.

Edward A. Herman, who is prosperously engaged in operating a farm of 320 acres in Zumbro Township, was born in Tacoma, Wash., August 19, 1891, son of William and Matilda (Scholer) Herman. The father was a native of Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, born in 1867 of German ancestry, the grandparents, William and Mary (Springer) Herman, coming to the United States and settling in Wisconsin in the early fifties. The family moved to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1880, locating on a farm in Gillford Township, which the grandparents carried on until their retirement in 1893, after which they resided at Zumbro Falls until their death. William Herman (Jr.) worked for his father until 1888, when he went to Tacoma, Wash., where he resided four years. After his return to Wabasha County, Minn., he operated rented farms until he purchased one in Zumbro Township, in sections 11 and 14, where he now lives. He was married to Matilda Scholar in 1890. Edward A. Herman acquired his education in the district school and was trained to agriculture on his parents' farm. For a few years he worked for his father and afterwards did farm labor for others near Zumbro Falls. In 1915 he rented his present farm of 320 acres in sections 14 and 15, Zumbro Township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising with profitable results. Mr. Herman was married November 24, 1915, to Grace Parkinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Parkinson of Zumbro Township, her parents being prominent and well to do farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Herman have one child, Ralph William, who was born April 1, 1917.

Fred F. Bade, of the firm of Bade & Johnson, proprietors of Trout Brook Stock Farm, located in Trout Brook Valley, Glasgow Township, was born in West Albany Township, July 2, 1871, son of Louis and Sophia (Haase) Bade. The parents were natives of Germany who came to the United States in the late fifties, settling at Galena, Ill., whence in 1860 they came to Wabasha County, Minnesota. Fred F. Bade was educated in Lake City, attending first the common school and then the high school, from which he was graduated in the English course in 1893. After that he taught school for nine years in Wabasha County, spending his vacations at home. Towards the end of that period he became interested in politics, and, having made many friends and acquaintances throughout the county, in 1902 was elected county auditor, taking office January 1, 1903, and serving four years. While still holding that position Mr. Bade began activities in farm work. During the years 1915, 1916 and 1917 he was employed as bookkeeper in the Dwelle Telephone office in Lake City. In 1918 he relinquished all other work but farming, beginning the active development of his present place, where his family joined him in the fall of the following year. This business was begun in a small way in 1913, Mr. Bade placing "Trout Brook King," a pure blood Shorthorn sire, at the head of his cattle stock, with a pure blood cow and heifer. He operated the business alone until October 1, 1919, when William S. Johnson became associated with him as partner, and they have since continued together. Mr. Bade's farm consisted of 304 acres of good land in the valley, while Mr. Johnson's, adjoining, contained 162 acres, and the two estates have been combined to form the Bade & Johnson Stock Farm. Their present herd numbers 64 head. In 1918 Mr. Bade added 25 head, mostly cows, to the herd. In January the firm placed in the herd a pure blood sire, "British Lex," purchased of Leslie Smith & Sons of St. Cloud at a cost of \$4,100, but this investment proved unfortunate, as they lost the bull in five weeks after the purchase. A more recent addition to the herd is "Irish Poplin" No. 899597, imported in January, 1920, which they purchased in March of William Hartnett, Chicago, at a cost of \$10,000. This animal, which is a three-year-old, sired in England, is now at the head of the herd. He took sweepstakes as champion in 1919 at Belfast, Ireland, and the first prize and a blue ribbon at the Minnesota State Fair in 1920. The firm have





MR. AND MRS. FRED F. BADE







also several young cows that are regarded as coming winners. Well appointed quarters for the herd have been provided on the Bade premises, and a modern stock barn has been erected, 44 by 80 by 14 feet, with a full stone basement and full steel equipment. It is provided with running water and is electrically lighted. The farm is beautifully situated in a fertile valley about eight miles southeast of Lake City and about the same distance southwest of Wabasha, and is in direct charge of Fred McNichol, a native of Scotland and a herdsman of long experience. In 1917 Mr. Bade began breeding pure blood Duroc hogs, and though this branch of the business is still in its infancy it has a promising future. Some general farming is also done, the product of the land being fed to the stock. Mr. Bade was married September 1, 1903, to Mabel Johnson, who was born in Glasgow Township, May 1, 1877, daughter of Knute and Laura (Steenerson) Johnson. Of this union two children have been born: Allan F., October 15, 1904, and Donald J., May 22, 1911. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bade were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church.

**Paul L. Mitchell**, a prominent citizen of Zumbro Township, where he is engaged in agriculture, being also a member of the board of supervisors, was born in this township, September 9, 1877, son of Allen and Cora (Phelps) Mitchell. The father was born in Maine and the mother in Chicago, Ill. They came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in the early sixties, and were engaged in farming here until their retirement in 1915, since which time they have resided in Hammond. They are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church, and Allen Mitchell served for some time on the school board of his district. Their children were Paul, Bert, Grover, Leonard and Floyd. Paul L. Mitchell was educated in the district school and worked for his father until 1898, after which he rented the home farm for a year. He then rented the Sidney Corp farm, on which he now resides. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, breeding Red Durham cattle, and having full blooded sires at the head of his herds, and his operations have been conducted with profitable results. For four years he has served as treasurer of the town of Zumbro, and was also for several years clerk of the school board of his district. Mr. Mitchell was married, February 18, 1903, to Adella Rolph, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rolph of Zumbro Township. Mrs. Rolph is now deceased, having passed away in 1920. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are the parents of four children, who were born as follows: Wilma, December 22, 1903; Luella, February 20, 1905; Lyle, February 16, 1912, and Clayton, October 2, 1915.

**Orrin Pencille**, a pioneer settler in Zumbro Township, now deceased, was a native of Canada and married Mary A. Denison of New York State. They came to Wabasha County, Minnesota, in 1856, at which time there was a considerable influx of settlers, though but little land had been cleared, and the few farm houses were nearly all small log cabins. Mr. Pencille took a claim of 80 acres in Zumbro Township, and later increased the size of his farm to 120 acres, subsequently buying still more land until he owned 280 acres, a part of which he cleared, besides erecting buildings. He also acquired a quarter section at Bigstone, Minn. In addition to general farming, he worked at the blacksmith's trade. In 1892 he moved with his family to Plainview, where he engaged in the music business, selling musical instruments, and giving music lessons. Encouraged by his success in this line of endeavor, but desiring a wider field, he went in 1902 to Chicago, where he followed the same business until 1907. He then sold his Chicago interests and returning to Minnesota, took up his residence in Rochester, where he died in the same year. He had been a widower for eight years, his wife having passed away in December, 1899. They were members of the Methodist church. Their children were William D., Annie L., Ida, Nettie, Carrie, Grace E., and Catherine A., of whom William, Annie and Grace are now the only survivors.

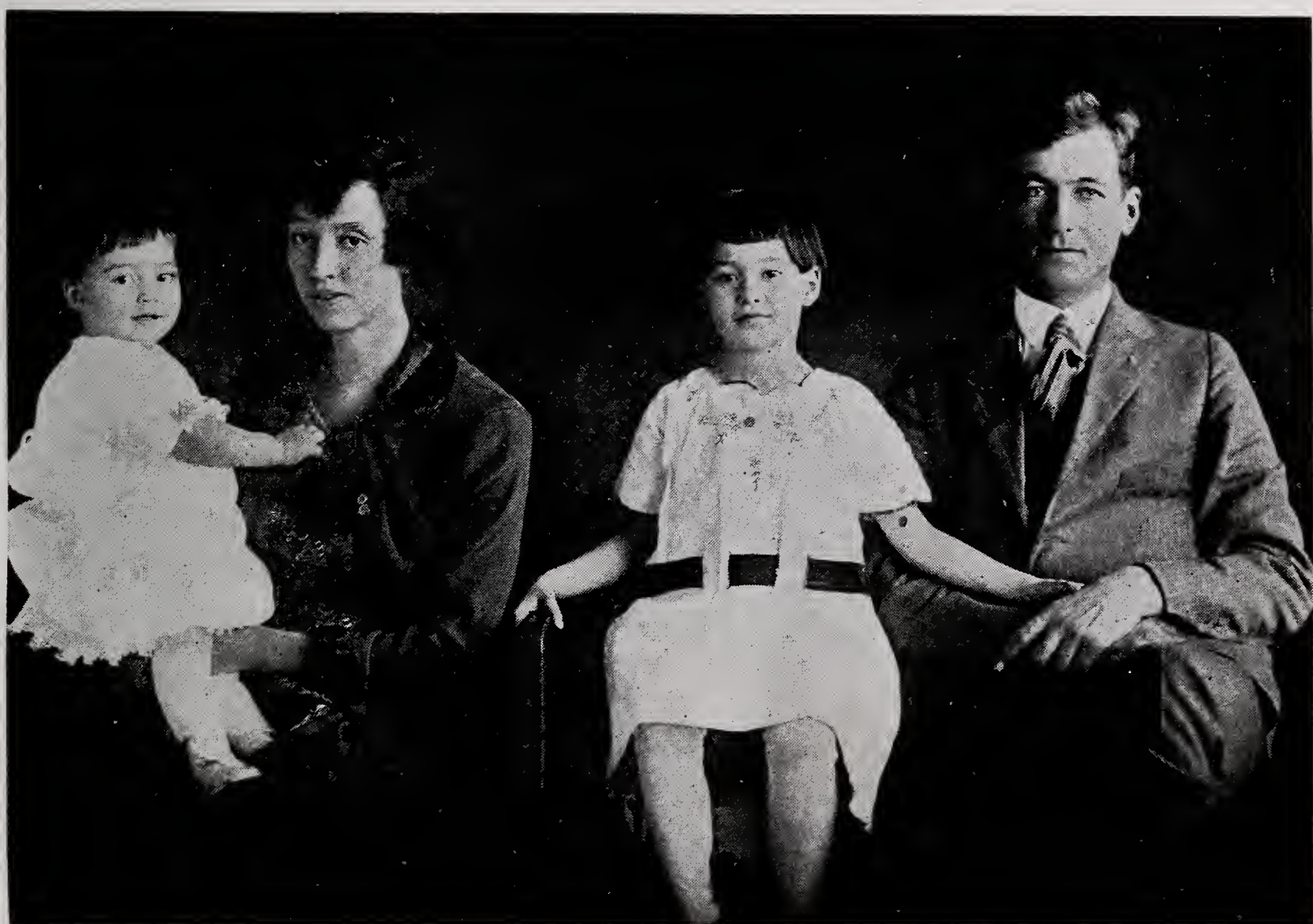
**William D. Pencille**, for a number of years one of the leading farmers of Zumbro Township, was born in this township, January 21, 1860, son of Orrin



and Mary A. (Denison) Pencille. He was educated in the district school and worked for his father until 1890, when he started in for himself, having in the previous year bought 140 acres in section 30, Zumbro Township. Enterprising and industrious, he bent all his energies to the work of improving his position in life, and to that end from time to time bought more land, about 1895 purchasing 120 acres in section 25, and later 80 acres in section 36, thereby increasing the area of his possessions to 400 acres, all in Zumbro Township. In addition to general farming and stock raising, he worked at the blacksmith's trade, and conducted a threshing outfit and clover-huller until he had the misfortune to lose his right arm, which was caught in a corn-shredder. He erected all the buildings on his farm, except the house, the barn being a particularly fine structure, and all the buildings, indeed, being substantial and up to date in style and arrangement. In 1917 he rented the farm to his sons William and Seward, and is now retired. Aside from the financial interest connected with his farm, Mr. Pencille is a stockholder in several important business enterprises, of each of which he is an official, being president of the Live Stock Shipping Association of Hammond, vice president and a director of the Farmers State Bank of Hammond, vice president of the Hammond Creamery Association and treasurer of the Hammond Telephone Company. Mr. Pencille was married May 10, 1890, to Josephine G. Perkins, daughter of W. R. and Gertrude K. Perkins. Her parents, natives of New York State, came to Minnesota and settled in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, in 1862, after Mr. Perkins had served about a year in the Civil War as a member of a New York volunteer regiment, in which he enlisted in 1861. He bought 160 acres of school land in Zumbro Township, where he resided until his death, December 1, 1896. He was for many years a member of the school board and an honorary member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of South Troy. His wife, who survived him, died April 29, 1920. They were the parents of nine children: Walter, Joel, Armenia, Frances, Josephine, Irene, Fred, Frank and Annie. The four last mentioned are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Pencille have been the parents of seven children: Mina E., born March 27, 1891, now Mrs. Henry Herman; William R., born August 24, 1892; Orrin, born March 8, 1894, who died September 1 the same year; Seward K., born September 29, 1895; Ethel M., born June 15, 1898; Annie L., born March 24, 1900, and Donald E., born June 1, 1906. The family is one of high standing in Zumbro Township.

**Chester J. Winters**, a prominent young farmer of Chester Township, owning 240 acres in sections 1 and 12, who has various financial interests in addition to agriculture, was born in this township, August 22, 1887, son of Frederick and Fredericka (Issensee) Winters. The father was a native of Germany who came to America when eleven years old, the family settling in Pittsburgh, where he later worked for several years in a glass factory. In 1863 he came to Minnesota, locating in Chester Township, Wabasha County. Here he devoted himself to farming, and from time to time bought land until he owned 400 acres in sections 1, 11 and 12, as well as 40 acres in Mazeppa Township. He was actively engaged in agricultural work until 1914, and died May 14, 1918. His wife died in June, 1907. They had six children, Henry C., Fred W., Lawrence M., Christina H., Chester J. and Caroline Edith, the last mentioned of whom died at the age of 18 years. Chester J. Winters was educated in the district school and subsequently attended the agricultural school at St. Paul. For several years he worked for his father and in 1909 rented the home farm, where he has successfully followed general farming and stock raising, including the breeding of sheep. He is the president and a stockholder of the Oak Center Creamery; a director in the Gillford Mutual Fire Insurance Company; a stockholder in the Minnesota Daily Star, published by the Northwest Publishing Company of St. Paul; stockholder in the Farmers' Terminal Packing Plant of Newport, Minn.; also in the Farmers' Terminal Tannery of the same place; the Farmers' Co-operative Store at Belle Chester, and the Wabasha County Leader,





CHESTER J. WINTERS AND FAMILY













HERMAN NIBBE AND FAMILY.



and is a member of the Zumbro Falls Shipping Association. Mr. Winters has also given some time to public affairs in his locality. For six years he served as supervisor on the town board, being chairman part of the time, and in the spring of 1920 was elected town clerk. He is also clerk of school district No. 65. Politically he is independent, voting for the man rather than with any particular party. On October 24, 1912, Mr. Winters was united in marriage with Mame Caspari, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Caspari of Gillford Township, Wabasha County. Two children have been born to them: Helen A., on May 1, 1915, and Barbara E., July 1, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Winters are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lake City.

**Henry W. Rietman**, one of the younger farmers of Chester Township, who is making good progress, was born in this township December 18, 1889, son of Gerhardt and Mary (Fricke) Rietman. The parents came to Wabasha County, Minn., from Germany in 1880, settling in Chester Township, where they were engaged in farming for nearly 30 years. Mrs. Mary Rietman died in 1898, and her husband now resides with his son, Henry. They had seven children, Fred, Christ (deceased), William, August, Henry W., Louis and Anna. The family is affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal and Lutheran churches. Henry W. Rietman acquired his education in the district school. He subsequently worked several years as a general farm laborer. Then he entered the United States navy, in which he served about four years. In 1916 he rented a farm near Zumbro Falls, which he operated for three years, or until 1919, in which year he removed to his present farm of 80 acres in section 31, Chester Township. Here he is profitably engaged in general farming and stock raising, his niece, Viola Kalbe, keeping house for him and his father, who resides with him. Young and enterprising, he is apparently on the threshold of a promising future.

**John Nibbe**, now deceased, was born in Hanover, Germany, November 3, 1841. In 1862, as a young man of 21, he came to America. He was married in New York City to Barbara Katz, who was born in Baden, Germany, in 1843. In 1875 Mr. and Mrs. Nibbe came west to Goodhue County, Minn., and settled on a farm. Mr. Nibbe followed farming and railroading for many years. He died December 31, 1913, his wife Barbara having died nearly 25 years previously, on December 23, 1888. They were the parents of seven children: Mattie, deceased, who was the wife of Henry Barghusen of Red Wing, Minn.; Anna, now Mrs. Richard Wilkins of Red Wing; Jacob J., of Red Wing; Herman G., a prosperous farmer of Gillford Township, Wabasha County; Gust, who is farming in Mt. Pleasant Township, Wabasha County; John, of Bowman, N. D.; and Dena, now Mrs. Jacob Fiendt.

**Herman G. Nibbe**, a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of Gillford Township, the owner and operator of a good farm, and who is also a stockholder in various other business enterprises, was born in Belvidere Township, Goodhue County, April 24, 1879, son of John and Barbara (Katz) Nibbe. He was early trained to agricultural pursuits and acquired his education in the district school. Reared by Joseph Holst of Belvidere, he remained with him eight years, and for five or six years was an ordinary farm hand. Finally he started in for himself, renting the Kin Rogers farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, where he remained ten years. In 1911 he bought his present farm of 160 acres in sections 3 and 4, Gillford Township, an improved farm, but with an old set of buildings. This deficiency he has remedied by the erection of a new set of modern type, including a two-story, ten-room house, electrically lighted; a barn for stock and hay, 30 by 50 by 18 feet, with an "L" for horses 28 by 32 by 18 feet; a stave silo 12 by 36, and other good buildings. Mr. Nibbe carries on diversified farming with an energy and experience which has been rewarded by a large measure of success. His farm is well stocked with pure blooded Red Poll cattle, of which he has 30 head; pure blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs, and grade Shropshire sheep. Mr. Nibbe is a member of the Lake City and Zumbro



Falls shipping associations, and is a stockholder in the Oak Center Creamery, of which he was formerly vice president; the Terminal Packing Co. of Newport, the Farmers' Elevator at Lake City, the Co-operative Milling Co. of Lake City, and the Wabasha County Leader. He was married in 1900 to Freda Catherine Meincke, who was born May 29, 1876, daughter of Henry and Anna E. (Tomfordt) Meincke of Mt. Pleasant Township. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Alfred Henry, born in 1901, who attended agricultural college and is now on the home farm; Norman George, born in 1903, who is a student in the Lake City High School; Anetta Henrietta, born in 1906, also a student in the Lake City high school; and George Wilmer, born in 1911. Mr. Nibbe and his family are affiliated religiously with the Trinity congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church, the local organization being known as the "Lincoln Church."

**Henry A. Oelkers**, engaged in agriculture in Chester Township, was born in this township March 26, 1887, son of John and Allie (Limemann) Oelkers. The parents came to this country from Germany in the early seventies, settling in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where they bought 80 acres in section 29, and later 80 acres more in the same section. The father erected all the buildings, put up fences and cleared some of the land and continued as a general farmer and stock raiser there until his death in June, 1908. His wife is now living in Goodhue village. Religiously they are affiliated with the German Lutheran church. They have had four children: Henry, William, Emma and Leona. Henry A. Oelkers acquired his education in the district school. After becoming industriously active he worked for his father until 1908, after which for several years he conducted the home farm for his mother. In 1919 he bought it, but sold it the same year and bought his present farm of 40 acres in section 28, Chester Township, which he is cultivating successfully. For four years he has served as a member of the school board of District No. 100. Mr. Oelkers was married June 17, 1912, to Isabelle Chesnack, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Chesnack of Mezappa village. Both her parents are now deceased, the father having passed away in 1910, and the mother in 1918. They had seven children, Isabella, Maude, Anna, Clara, John, Peter and Sylvester, of whom Clara is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Oelkers are the parents of one child, Lloyd H., who was born February 22, 1920.

**Hein Oelkers**, an early settler in Chester Township, who is still living here, was born in Hanover, Germany, April 9, 1851. He grew to manhood and was educated in his native land, where he remained until he was 27 years old. Then in 1878 he came to the United States and to Wabasha County, Minn., locating in Chester Township, he and his brother buying 160 acres in section 9. There they farmed together until 1894, in which year the subject of this sketch sold his 80 acres and bought 160 acres in section 15. On his new place he erected a set of buildings and made general improvements, carrying on farming and stock raising there for over 20 years. In 1915 he rented the farm to a tenant, and bought the farm on which he now lives, containing 80 acres, and situated in section 16. On this he built another set of buildings, but is no longer engaged in active work, being now retired. Mr. Oelkers was married October 14, 1894, to Bertha Limermann, a native of Germany, who is still living with him on their farm. They have had seven children, Lydia, Anna, Arthur, Lorene, Alfred, Arnold and Hartland. The three daughters are married, Lydia being the wife of Peter Tomfort, and Anna the wife of Emil Girgin, and Lorene the wife of William Vumbargen. As an early settler in Chester Township, and a resident here for more than 40 years, Mr. Oelkers is widely known and himself knows all the old residents for miles around. He and his wife and family are highly respected by the people of the township. They are consistent members of the Lutheran church.

**David L. Jones**, engaged in agricultural development on a farm of 193 acres in Chester Township, was born in this township May 5, 1863, son of









MR. AND MRS. GUST MUESKE.



David and Mary (Lewis) Jones. The parents, natives of Wales, came to the United States in the early sixties. Later they settled in Chester Township, this county and state, where they farmed until the death of David Jones in 1898. On his homestead, which consisted of 160 acres in section 22, he had erected a set of buildings. His wife, now 87 years old, resides with her son, William. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was also Mr. Jones. Their children were: Thomas, John, David, William, Hannah, Mary, Rosella and James, the last mentioned of whom is now deceased. David L. Jones acquired his education in the district school, and worked on the home farm until 1894. He then began farming on his own account, buying his present farm of 193 acres in sections 22 and 23, Chester Township, on which he built the residence and outbuildings. Here he has had a successful career, doing diversified farming and raising a high grade of stock. He was married December 10, 1892, to Gladys Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis, her parents being pioneers of Chester Township. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been the parents of five children: Ray, born August 29, 1893, who died September 24 the same year; Neil R., born November 23, 1894, who served in the World War and is now a teacher in Montana; Murray F., born July 25, 1897, who is living on the home farm; Florence J., born March 24, 1899, now living in Bozeman, Mont., where she is employed as assistant treasurer of the Montana State College; and Margie M., born April 23, 1907, who is residing at home. Neil R. was drafted for military service February 22, 1918, and was a member of Company D, 313th Ammunition Train. Until July, 1918, he was at Camp Dodge, and subsequently in an officers' training school. He was made Sergeant September 18, 1918, and was discharged January 28, 1919. Robert Davis, father of Mrs. David L. Jones, was born in New Brunswick, and went from there to the state of Illinois, where he farmed for a short time. Then, about 1856, he came to Wabasha County, Minn., where he was married in 1858. His wife was born in Vermont and came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1857. They settled in Chester Township, their farm consisting of 127 acres in sections 27 and 34. The buildings on it were erected by Mr. Davis, whose death occurred July 24, 1901. His wife, who survived him, resided in Mazeppa until her death, October 3, 1920. Their children were Sadie, Fred, Mary, Gladys, Frank and Georgia, of whom Fred is now deceased.

**Gust Mueske**, for several years a representative farmer of Mazeppa Township, owning and operating a good farm of 200 acres in sections 28 and 33, was born in Germany, December 24, 1863, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gustaf Mueske. He was educated in his native land and came to the United States in 1883. During his first five years in this country he worked at farm labor, practicing economy with the view of some day making an independent start on a farm of his own. In 1888 he rented a farm in Olmsted County which he operated three years with sufficient success to enable him in 1892 to buy 40 acres in section 28, and he now began farming on his own land. Subsequent purchases increased the size of his farm to 200 acres, situated in sections 28 and 33, Mazeppa Township. He greatly improved the property by the erection of a set of buildings, and successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. His place being well managed, yielded satisfactory financial results. In the fall of 1920 he retired from farming and bought a pleasant home in Lake City at 420 No. Main street, where he now resides. Mr. Mueske was married December 7, 1888, to Sophia Hohman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hohman, who were farming people of South Troy, Zumbro Township, where they both died, Mr. Hohman in May, 1911, and Mrs. Hohman in May, 1899. Mrs. Mueske was one of a family of three children, Sophia, Louisa and Minnie. To Mr. and Mrs. Mueske 13 children have been born, as follows: Herman H., October 4, 1890 (married Tillie Farber); Anna, December 14, 1891; Elma, October 28, 1893; Clara, July 22, 1895; Olga, November 16, 1896; Ida, July 23, 1897; Emma, April 27, 1899; William M., July 19, 1901; Edward M., October 10, 1903; Laura, No-



vember 7, 1906; Leona, April 23, 1909; Max, December 12, 1913; and Benjamin, March 13, 1915. Of these children, two are now deceased: Anna, who died April 17, 1911, in her twentieth year; and Clara, who died January 29 in the same year, 1911, in her seventeenth year. Three of the surviving daughters are married, Elma being the wife of John Rich of Oronoco, Olmsted County, Ida the wife of William Hoeft, on the home farm, and Emma the wife of Lewis Farber, of Mazeppa Township.

**Paul Krinke**, a well known and respected citizen of Chester Township, now living retired after an active and successful career in agricultural pursuits, was born in Wisconsin October 23, 1856, son of Paul, Sr., and Christina (Rockow) Krinke. The parents came to Wisconsin from Germany in 1850 and resided there twelve years as farmers. In 1862 they removed to Minnesota, settling near Blue Earth, where Mrs. Christina Krinke died in 1878. After that event the father went with his son, Paul, Jr., to North Dakota, where he himself died in 1893. He was a member of the German Lutheran church. He and his wife had eight children: Michael, August, Paul, Herman, Albertina, Augusta, Pauline and Mary, of whom six are now living, those deceased being Michael and Herman. Paul Krinke, Jr., acquired a district school education and subsequently worked for his father until 1883. He then went to North Dakota, where he pre-empted 160 acres of land. He later bought 160 acres more, bringing up the size of his farm to 320 acres, which he operated for nine years and then sold. In 1892 he came to Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., and bought 240 acres in section 32. Here he erected a good set of farm buildings, and was engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1910. In that year he rented the farm and moved to Lake City, where he resided for five years. At the end of that time he returned to the farm, on which he worked until 1919, when he retired, turning its management over to his son, Albert. Associated with Andrew Leffring, he bought the Baker farm, containing 360 acres, to which he removed in the fall of 1920. Mr. Krinke was married May 25, 1881, to Pauline Missall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Missall of Blue Earth, Minn. Both her parents are now deceased, the father having died in 1900 and the mother in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Krinke have been the parents of eight children: George, Edwin, Albert, Alfred, Alice, Frank, Lewis and an infant who died unnamed. Frank and Lewis are also deceased. George is now living at Nashwauk, Minn. Edwin is farming in Pierce County, Wis. Albert is farming in Chester Township. Alfred married Clara Baker, daughter of Thomas and Cora Baker of Chester Township, and is now engaged in farming.

**Albert Krinke**, who is operating a farm of 240 acres in section 32, Chester Township, was born in this township March 27, 1897, son of Paul and Pauline (Missall) Krinke. The father, a native of Wisconsin, of German ancestry, came to Wabasha County, Minn., with his parents in 1862 when a child of about six years, the family settling near Blue Earth, in Faribault County. In 1878, on the death of Paul's mother, Paul went with his father to North Dakota, where they resided until the latter's death in 1878. There Paul Krinke pre-empted 160 acres of land, later buying 160 acres more, and was engaged in farming for nine years, at the end of which time he sold his property. In 1892 he came to Chester Township, Wabasha County, and bought a farm of 240 acres in section 32, which he improved and cultivated until 1910. He then moved to Lake City, where he resided for five years, after which he returned to the farm, but finally retired from active work in 1919. He and his wife have had eight children: George, Edwin, Albert, Alfred, Alice, Frank and Lewis, of whom the two last mentioned and an infant unnamed, are now deceased. Albert Krinke was educated in the Mazeppa village school and in the Lake City High School, being graduated from the latter institution in 1918. Since his father gave up the active management of the farm Albert has been engaged in its operation, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising. He is breeding Holstein cattle, having full blooded sires for his herd, and is making good progress in









DAVID L. PHILLEY



all branches of his business. He was married June 3, 1920, to Daisy Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Johnson of Chester Township.

**Stephan J. Reding**, for a number of years a substantial farmer and esteemed citizen of Chester Township, whose life came to a sudden and tragic end on October 26, 1918, was born in Sheldon Township, Wyoming County, N. Y., December 31, 1868, son of Stephan and Josephine (Peiry) Reding. In 1870, when two years old, he accompanied his parents to Goodhue County, Minn., where he was reared to manhood, the family home being in the vicinity of Crystal Spring, Belvidere Township. For a number of years he worked for his father, and subsequently rented 160 acres of his father in Goodhue County. He later bought a farm of 160 acres in section 16, and 80 in section 17, Chester Township, Wabasha County, which he subsequently developed and brought into excellent condition, remodeling the house and erecting a good barn, and where he carried on general farming and stock raising with profitable results until his death, which was the result of an automobile accident. On the afternoon of Saturday, October 26, 1918, Mr. Reding and his son Nicholas had motored to Wabasha to transact business with the local draft board. They left the city at about 4 p. m. to return home. Not far from the railroad tracks the car sloughed or was leaving the road. Probably in endeavoring to bring it back in the road too sudden a turn was made—at any rate the car made a complete turn forward, landing again on the wheels and throwing out Mr. Reding and his son. The latter regained consciousness in a short time, and on looking for his father found him lying in the road a short distance away, devoid of life. His skull was fractured, some of his ribs broken and he had sustained other serious injuries. Nicholas suffered no injuries except some cuts on his forehead. Aid was summoned and the Knights of Columbus of Mazeppa took charge of the remains and brought them to his former home on Sunday. The funeral was one of the largest ever held at Belvidere. About 75 Knights of Columbus from neighboring towns were among those present. Mr. Reding was a man held in high esteem for his probity, genial manners, and all the qualities of a good neighbor and a good citizen. His death left a void that was hard to fill and was mourned by the entire community. Stephan J. Reding was married August 29, 1893, to Susan Arendt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Arendt of Chester Township, whose farm in section 8 now comprises 795 acres of land. In 1901 her parents moved to Little Falls, Morrison County, Minn., where Mrs. Arendt died in 1909. Mr. Arendt now resides at Maple Lake, Wright County. They had a family of 15 children: Nicholas, Susan, Josephine (first), Josephine (second), Mary, Peter, August, Katherine, Margaret, Frank, Rose, Lena, John, Joseph and Stephan. The first Josephine died in infancy, and the second of the name, who became Sister Theclita, of Notre Dame Convent, Milwaukee, died May 22, 1906. August, John and Stephan are also deceased. Margaret is now Sister Agneta of Notre Dame Convent, Milwaukee. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Stephan J. Reding, ten in number, were born as follows: John, August 4, 1894; Mary B., January 25, 1896; Philip D., July 18, 1897; Nicholas L., October 18, 1898; Leo P., February 4, 1900; Bert L., August 25, 1901; Florence H., September 25, 1903; Katherine C., January 1, 1905; Veronica M., January 6, 1910; and Evelyn M., December 9, 1912. John was drafted into the United States service September 5, 1918, becoming a member of the 334th Headquarters Company. He was discharged December 9, 1919. Philip D. was drafted October 24, 1918. He was discharged in 1919 and on August 10, 1920, married Gertrude Musty of Red Wing. Mary B. is now the wife of Lawrence Majerus, of Chester Township.

**David L. Philley**, who came at an early day to Wabasha County, and after an interval of some years, made a permanent settlement, was born in McDonough, Chenango County, N. Y., September 8, 1823, son of Isaac and Eliza Philley. His grandfather, Remembrance Philley, served through the Revolutionary War under Washington. The family name is of Irish origin, but the



mother of Remembrance was Scotch. David L. Philley was reared on a farm and received a meager common school education. At the age of 21 he began to teach and educate himself, teaching eight winters in all. He also bought farms and sold them after making improvements. He was married March 5, 1849, to Clarissa L. Eaton, who was born in Willet, Cortland County, N. Y., and whose father, John Eaton, was born in Utica. In 1857 Mr. Philley came to Wabasha County, Minn., on a prospecting tour, and bought 240 acres of land in Chester Township, subsequently returning East. In 1868 he came back to Minnesota, bringing with him his family, and they settled on his land in Chester Township, which he improved, carrying on agriculture there until 1875, when he moved to Lake City. About a year later he came to Mazeppa, where he built a good residence, and engaged in the buying and selling of land, an occupation in which he continued until his death on March 28, 1903. He had been a widower for over ten years, his wife having passed away December 23, 1893. Of their six children, five are now living: Melinda, a widow residing in Mazeppa, her husband, Albert Stowell, having died in 1905; Isaac L., a hardware merchant in Lewisburg, Minn.; John E., of Mazeppa; Murray, who lives in Canada; and Viola, who married Edward Noonan of Portland, Ore. The one deceased is Sherman. Mr. Philley was at one time, in the early eighties, the owner of 2,100 acres of land, of which 1,300 acres were in Lac Qui Parle County. He was a member of Mazeppa Lodge, I. O. G. T.

**John E. Philley**, now living retired in Mazeppa, after a number of years spent in farming and stock raising in Chester Township, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., September 9, 1856, son of David L. and Clarissa (Eaton) Philley. He was in his twelfth year when he accompanied his parents to the farm they had purchased in Chester Township, this county, and he was there reared to manhood, acquiring under his father a practical knowledge of agriculture. On his father's death in March, 1903, he fell heir to the farm, which he conducted until April, 1912. He then rented the place to a tenant and came to Mazeppa, where he has since lived retired. He has been school director for several years, and for three years justice of the peace, and is a man held in esteem by his fellow townsmen for his sterling qualities as a neighbor and good American citizen. He is fraternally affiliated with the United Workmen. Mr. Philley was married April 3, 1880, to Clara A. Ford, daughter of Orton and Finette (Hogan) Ford. Her grandfather, Joseph Ford, was one of the earliest settlers on the site of Mazeppa, pre-empting 160 acres of land in the north half of section 6, and he and his son, Orville D., who settled in the south half of the same section, laid out and platted the village, the site of which was owned by Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Philley are the parents of three daughters: Olive, wife of Delbert Cunningham, of Zumbrota, Minn., and Almeter and Elsie, residing in Mazeppa, the latter being clerk in Nichol's store. A son, Clarence, is now deceased.

**Charles A. Swanson**, head of the firm of Swanson & Sons, of Plainview, engaged in buying and shipping produce, was born in Wabasha County, October 30, 1871, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Swanson. He acquired his education in the district schools, and at the age of 19 years began working out as a farm laborer. This occupation he followed for a few years and then rented the Patton farm in Elgin Township, this county, which he was engaged in operating for 14 years. Afterwards he bought an 80-acre farm in the same township, on which he lived for seven months, in 1909 selling the farm and moving to Plainview in order that his children might enjoy better educational opportunities. For a while after coming here he followed teaming, carpentry, painting and interior decorating, and is now, in company with his sons, engaged in buying and shipping such farm produce as cabbages, onions, and potatoes. In 1918 he bought a farm of 80 acres in Oakwood Township, this county. Enterprising and energetic, he has made good progress on the road to affluence, and is recognized as one of the prosperous and reliable citizens of the village. Mr. Swan-



son was married December 24, 1894, to Lulu M. Sexton, who was born in New York state May 11, 1877, and acquired her education in the Plainview, Minn., public and high schools. The children of this union are Charles A., Theodore S., Earl Ervin, Clarence August, Levi Lewis and Velva Lila Maude. Charles A., born November 1, 1895, after graduating from the Plainview high school at the age of 16 years, in 1912, entered the Winona Business College, from which he received four diplomas. For a time he was with the Huntley moving picture people at Winona, after which he worked as bookkeeper at Cooperstown, N. D. From there he went to Redwood Falls, Minn., where during the war he was employed in the draft office, and at the end of his term of service was accorded honorable mention as not having made a single mistake. On May 13, 1919, he became cashier in the freight depot at Tracy, Minn. His wife, Minnie, to whom he was married November 1, 1895, by a previous marriage, had one child, Leland. Theodore S. Swanson, born July 2, 1897, acquired his education in the common and high school of Plainview. He then engaged in farming at Eagle Grove, Iowa. On April 1, 1918, having been selected to serve his country, he went to camp at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and was there for about a year, being discharged April 14, 1919. He was married at Mason City, Iowa, to Emma Mitchell, and they reside at Eagle Grove, Iowa. Earl Ervin Swanson, born June 24, 1899, was graduated from the Plainview high school in 1918, and had the honor of being at the head of his class of 32 pupils. In September, 1918, he went to Minneapolis, where he entered the S. A. T. C., remaining three months. In January, 1919, he entered a business college in that city and was graduated in the same year. Clarence August Swanson, born November 5, 1900, is now a student in the Plainview high school. Levi Lewis, born January 1, 1902, is attending school in Plainview, being in the eighth grade. The youngest child, Velva Lila Maude, was born March 27, 1911, and is in the third grade of the same school. All the older children have shown exceptional ability, and the younger are bright and promising, the family apparently being possessed of good mental endowments.

**Michael James Sullivan**, a representative farmer of West Albany Township, owning and operating a good farm of 285 acres in section 30, was born on this farm May 18, 1868, son of Jeremiah and Margaret (Burke) Sullivan. The parents were natives of County Kerry, Ireland, where they made each other's acquaintance. Both came to America in 1850, and in 1851 they were married in New York City, soon after their marriage coming to Wisconsin and settling on a farm near Milwaukee. In 1855 they came to Wabasha County, Minn., and settled on 160 acres of the land now occupied by their son, Michael J., which they subsequently entered under the homestead law. The land was wild, but there was a small shanty standing on it, which obviated the necessity of building a house. Other improvements were made in time and the land developed into a farm, on which the parents resided until their death. The father died May 27, 1881, and was survived by his wife for nearly 21 years, her death occurring May 7, 1902. Their family numbered six children: Jeremiah, a farmer in West Albany Township, adjoining the old home farm; James, deceased; Mary, now Mrs. John Howard of Milwaukee; Johanna, deceased; Daniel, deceased; and Michael James, the subject of this sketch. Michael James Sullivan was reared on his parents' farm, and attended District School No. 23 in West Albany Township, until the age of 16 years. In 1892 he became owner of the farm, which in the fall of the same year he leased out, and went to Minneapolis, where he remained until 1904. While in that city he was employed for a number of years in the Syndicate Block on Nicolet avenue, and for four or five years was in the employ of the United States Express Co. In 1904 he returned to his farm in West Albany Township, which he has since been engaged in operating. He has built a comfortable frame house, barns, granary and other necessary buildings, and has also added to the original area, having now 285 acres of land, of which 200 are under the plow. His equipment is up



to date and complete and includes a good auto car. Mr. Sullivan carries on general farming on a profitable basis, his farm, which lies 12 miles south of Lake City, being well stocked with grade Shorthorn and Hereford cattle. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Co. of Millville. He is a Democrat politically and for seven years was treasurer of his school board. On October 3, 1893, Mr. Sullivan was united in marriage with Nellie, daughter of Michael and Anna (Worth) Sweeney, of St. Paul, Minn. She was born on a farm in Goodhue County, Minn., January 31, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan began home making in Minneapolis, where he was then employed. They have had three children: John, born August 9, 1894; Marion, born October 5, 1895; and Mildred, born May 9, 1898. John died in infancy. Marion, who was graduated from the Lake City High School in the normal school course, has been a teacher for the past seven years. She resides on the farm with her parents. Mildred is the wife of Ralph Harlan, a farmer near Plainview, and has one child, Edward.

**Joseph Bernhardt Freese**, who settled 36 years ago in West Albany Township, where he began agricultural improvements that have since resulted in a good farm now conducted by his son John, was born in Germany, February 23, 1830. He grew to manhood in his native land and was there married. In 1866, with his wife, Mary Elizabeth, and six children—five sons and one daughter, the youngest, John, being then only eight months old—he took passage on a sailing vessel for New Orleans, reaching that port safely, and then came by boat up the Mississippi river to Bellevue, Iowa, which place the family reached November 14, the same year, owing \$60 for transportation. In his native land Mr. Freese had been a farmer, and in Bellevue he engaged in ordinary labor, whatever he could find to do. He and his family remained there until the fall of 1879, when he came to Wabasha County, Minn., locating on a farm on Wabasha Hill, three and a half miles from Wabasha village, which he rented from Charles Roemer. There he remained four years, engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the fall of 1884 Mr. Freese rented the Henry Curry farm in section 13, West Albany Township, to which he and his family moved. He continued to operate it until 1889, when he retired, and it was purchased by his son, John, the present owner. Mr. Freese died January 9, 1902. His wife, who was born October 24, 1838, passed away only three days before him. They were the parents of eight children: Clement, now of Breckenridge, Minn.; Bernhardt, a retired farmer living in Wabasha; Theresa, now Mrs. Bernhardt Kreye of Pepin Township; Joseph, a prosperous farmer of West Albany Township; Henry, who is farming in Glasgow Township; August, a farmer in West Albany Township; Mary, now deceased; and John, residing on the old home farm.

**John Freese**, a prominent representative of the farming interests of West Albany Township, where he has resided for over 40 years, was born in Hanover, Germany, March 6, 1866, son of Joseph Bernhardt and Mary Elizabeth Freese. As a babe he accompanied his parents, together with a sister and four brothers, to the United States, Journeying on a sailing-vessel to New Orleans, and thence up the river to Bellevue, Iowa, where he attended the common school, and where the family remained until the fall of 1879, when they came to Wabasha County, Minn. Here his education was supplemented by three months in the Sisters' school at Wabasha, and was afterwards associated with his father on the home farms, first on Wabasha Hill, and then in section 13, West Albany, where he now lives, until the father's death in 1902. He then bought the farm, which his father had rented, and has since remained its proprietor, carrying on general farming and successfully breeding Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. The farm, which is now one of the best in the township, has been made so largely by his own exertions. It contains in all 216 acres, of which 160 acres are improved land in section 13, and the other 56 acres timber land on the Zumbro bottoms, near by. The original buildings were poor, the house being partly of frame and partly of log construction. Mr. Freese has replaced it with a large two-story frame house, consisting of an up-









NATHANIEL A. ROSEBOOM.



right and wing, and has built a good frame barn, a machine-shed, double corn crib, hog house and other necessary structures. He raises from 40 to 50 head of cattle annually and about the same number of hogs, and is doing a prosperous business. His operating equipment includes the usual farm machinery and some eight or ten horses, and he owns a fine Oakland auto. In politics Mr. Freese was formerly a Republican, but has joined the Non-partisan League. He has served his township several terms as supervisor, is still serving in that office, and has been a member of the local school board for years. In addition to his direct farming interests, he is one of the directors of the Theilman State Bank, is treasurer of the Farmers' Elevator Co. of Theilman, and is a stockholder in the Terminal Packing Co. of St. Paul, and in the Wabasha "Leader" (now his party's organ), and of the "Daily Star" of Minneapolis. He is also a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union of St. Paul. Mr. Freese was married October 7, 1902, to Augusta Markus, who was born in Trout Creek Valley, Glasgow Township, this county, June 29, 1876, daughter of Henry and Mary (Krull) Markus. Of the six children born to him and his wife, one died in infancy. Those living, with their birth dates, are as follows: Marie C., February 14, 1904; Gertrude, March 8, 1908; Arthur J., March 19, 1910; Elizabeth B., May 16, 1912; and Clarence J., May 26, 1914. Mr. Freese was reared a Catholic, and he and his family are members of St. Joseph's parish at Theilman, he also being a trustee of the parish.

**Garrett Roseboom**, formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits in Zumbro Township, was born in New Jersey, September 23, 1848. In 1862 he came to Wabasha County, Minn., with his parents, Ares and Elizabeth Roseboom, who settled in Zumbro Township, and until 1864 he worked for his father. After that for several years he did farm labor, working for others. In 1868 Mr. Roseboom started in for himself as an independent farmer, buying 80 acres in section 35, Zumbro Township, and building a house on his land. There he was engaged in general farming and stock raising until his death on November 15, 1886. Mr. Roseboom was married January 15, 1878, to Louise Renoux, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Renoux. Her parents were natives of France who came to America in 1845, settling near Lake City, Minn., on a small farm. Mr. Renoux dying in the following year, his wife subsequently operated the farm and reared her family. They had seven children: Mary, Victoria (deceased), Joseph, Louisa, Emma and Alice (twins), and Harriett. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Roseboom, all now living, are as follows: Nathaniel A., born October 22, 1880; John J., born February 28, 1883, now residing in Olmsted County; Lydia H., born February 28, 1885, who is the wife of Arley Disney of Olmsted County; and Garrett, born July 14, 1887, who is operating the home farm for his mother, who has conducted it with the assistance of her sons since her husband's death. She has improved the place by the erection of a barn and outbuildings, and also bought 80 additional acres of land in section 36. The farm is now well improved and the family prosperous and respected.

**Nathaniel A. Roseboom**, a member of a prominent family of Zumbro Township, and who for a number of years has been engaged in agricultural operations here, was born in this township October 22, 1880, son of Garrett and Louisa (Renoux) Roseboom. His father dying in 1886, he subsequently worked on the home farm for his mother until 1897. Then he and his brothers, John and Garrett, rented the home farm and were associated together for 21 years, operating in all 520 acres—200 acres in Wabasha County and 320 acres in Oronoco Township, Olmsted County. In 1918 he branched out for himself, farming 200 acres of his own. On settling his father's estate he had inherited 40 acres, and in 1912 he bought 80 acres of land adjoining in section 36, Zumbro Township. Later he purchased another 80, making in all 200 acres, the farm on which he now lives. He has built a barn and outbuildings, repaired the fences and made other improvements, and is successfully carrying on general farming, raising high grade Durham cattle. He has also devoted a part of his time to



public affairs, having served seven years as chairman of the town board of supervisors, and six years as a member of the school board of District No. 69. Mr. Roseboom was married June 22, 1910, to Jessie M. Cooke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cooke of Rochester, her parents having formerly resided many years in Zumbro Township. Mr. and Mrs. Roseboom are the parents of two children: Kenneth N., born January 11, 1912; and Jennie L., born February 26, 1920.

**John J. Roseboom**, well known in Zumbro Township, where for a number of years he was engaged extensively in agriculture, though now a resident of Olmsted County, was born in Zumbro Township, Wabasha County, February 28, 1883, son of Garrett and Louisa (Renoux) Roseboom. He was educated in the district school, and after his father's death in 1886 worked for his mother on the home farm until 1897. Then he and his brothers rented the farm for two years, and were associated together subsequently in farming operations until 1919, operating 520 acres in Wabasha and Olmsted Counties. In 1919 John J. Roseboom bought 120 acres in Olmsted County, where he is now engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has built a barn and machine-shed and put his new property into good condition. He was married June 20, 1906, to May R. Cooke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cooke of Rochester. Of this union three children have been born: Mildred L., October 21, 1908; Clifton J., August 14, 1909; and Percy, February 19, 1916.

**August Thiele**, a prosperous land owner of Chester Township, where he formerly engaged in farming, but is now retired, was born in Hanover, Germany, October 23, 1856, about the time when this county was receiving its pioneer settlers. He was educated in his native land and remained there until 1878, in which year he emigrated to the United States and settled in Goodhue County, Minn. There until 1882 he was engaged in farm work in the vicinity of Belvidere. Then starting in for himself, he rented a farm in Chester Township, Wabasha County, which he operated for ten years, or until 1892. He then bought 80 acres in section 31, Chester, and set out to improve the place, erecting a new set of buildings and fences and clearing most of the land. Later he bought 160 acres in section 32, which he subsequently sold to his son, Edward. His last purchase was the farm of 80 acres on which he now lives, situated in section 31, and which is operated by his sons John and Henry, Mr. Thiele having retired in 1912, after a successful career as a farmer and stock raiser. A man of energy and ambition, he helped to develop the resources of the township in which he settled, and has become well known and respected throughout the part of Wabasha County. August Thiele was married July 27, 1884, to Lenora Fricke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Fricke, natives of Germany, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Fricke came to America and until her death in 1916 resided with her daughter, Mrs. Thiele. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thiele have been as follows: John H., born November 22, 1885; Henry A., born November 4, 1888; Edwin H., born April 7, 1892; Rhinehart F., born May 7, 1893, who died September 4, the same year; Clara L., born February 4, 1895, now the wife of Ben Lemke; Elsie M., born March 3, 1897, who is keeping house for her brothers John and Henry; Sadie M., born September 11, 1899, and Lydia E., born November 17, 1903, both of whom are residing at home.

**Charles L. Wyatt**, an enterprising and successful farmer of Zumbro Township, was born in Zumbro Township April 30, 1869, son of Daniel and Anna (Stevens) Wyatt. The father was a native of New Hampshire and the mother of Maine. They came to Minnesota in the late fifties, first settling in Mazeppa Township, Wabasha County, and later in Zumbro, where Daniel Wyatt took a claim of 80 acres in section 13. He subsequently increased the size of his farm to 200 acres and built a house, barn and outbuildings. After remaining in the same location until 1905, he removed to a place a mile and a half east, but later took up his residence in Zumbro Falls, where he died May 4, 1908. His wife died February 6, 1913. They were members of the Congregational church



and were widely known and respected. Their family numbered nine children, Frank, Minnie, Henry, Lillie, Eugene, Laura, Ella, Anna and Charles. Henry, Laura and Ella are now deceased. Charles L. Wyattt acquired his education in the district school and was trained to agriculture on the home farm. He worked for his father until 1898, in which year he rented a farm in Bear Valley, Chester Township. After operating that farm for three years, he removed in 1898 to Gillford Township, where he bought 80 acres, which also he operated three years, or until 1901, after which he spent a year on a dairy farm in Atkins County. In 1902, returning to Wabasha County, he bought 240 acres in sections 12 and 13, Zumbro Township. On this place, where he resided 15 years, he built a barn and outbuildnigs. Selling it in 1917, he bought 156 acres in section 24, Zumbro Township, which is the farm he is now living on, though he has since increased its area to 236 acres, and has built a garage and made other improvements. His operations as a general farmer and stock raiser have been successfully conducted and he is now numbered among the well to do citizens of his township. Mr. Wyatt was married February 6, 1894, to Nannie Cliff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Addene Cliff. Her parents were natives respectively of England and New York State, the father coming to this country in the early sixties. After their marriage they resided in Connecticut for two years, and then came to Wabasha County, Minn., and engaged in farming in Chester Township. Mr. Cliff died April 7, 1898, and Mrs. Cliff July 8, 1912. They were members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Their children were Carrie, Nannie, Samuel and William. To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wyatt eight children have been born, as follows: Carl J., May 19, 1895; Lela M., November 29, 1897; Norman E., August 16, 1898; Theodore R., July 1, 1900; Beth A., October 23, 1902; Frank D., December 25, 1904; Myrtle J., June 17, 1907, and Lawrence C., October 20, 1910. The eldest son, Carl J., was one of those noble American youths, who, when this country was drawn into the maelstrom of the great World War, without waiting to be called on, enlisted in its service, the date of his enlistment being December 17, 1917. At first a member of the H. M. O. R. S., he subsequently transferred to the 2d Battalion, First Division, and went over seas to France. Though he was not called on to serve at the front, he gave up his life, falling a victim to influenza, and his body is still in France. Lela M. is now the wife of Percy Anderson. Norman E. is employed in the garage at Hammond. The other children are residing on the home farm. Mr. Wyatt and his family are affiliated religiously with the Congregational church, and he also belongs to the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen of America.

**Albert F. Fuerstnau**, a prominent business man of Hammond, where he is engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement business, and also, with his wife's assistance, operates a hotel, was born in Germany in 1866, son of William and Eva (Ristau) Fuerstnau. The parents were born in Germany, where the father died in 1873. Thirteen years later, in 1886, his wife came to this country, settling in Indiana, where in time she died. She left two sons and two daughters: William Herman, Gusta, Henrietta and Albert F. Gusta is now Mrs. Ed Werner of Thief River Falls, Minn. Henrietta is the wife of F. Dickman of Hammond. Albert F. Fuerstnau came to the United States in 1882, settling first in Indiana, where he remained three years. Then coming to Hammond, Wabasha County, Minn., he farmed in this vicinity for six years, after which he opened a hardware store. After working four years in the creamery he became a partner with Peter Ilgen in the hardware and machinery business, being thus occupied for six years. After that he was connected for a short time with the Roberts general store, and was then employed for some time in the Kitzman hardware store. Subsequently he worked 18 months for the Standard Oil Co. Mr. Fuerstnau then bought Albert Kreinbring's interest in the hardware store of which he is now proprietor. In the fall of 1919 he opened a hotel of nine rooms, which his wifetakes care of. Besides ordinary hardware he carries everything in the line of farm machinery, and is doing



a flourishing business, based on honesty, courtesy and prompt service. Mr. Fuerstnau was married in October, 1903, to Anna Dosdall, daughter of Fred and Rosa (Gneiser) Dosdall of Hammond. He and his wife are the parents of four children: Eva, Alden, Leona and Helena, all living at home. Eva attends school at Rochester.

Fred Dosdall, a well known and respected citizen of Hammond, where he is engaged in the carpenter's trade, was born in Germany in 1849, son of Michael and Wilhelmina (Johns) Dosdall. The parents came to the United States from Germany in 1863, first locating near Princeton, Wis., where they remained for about four years. They then moved to Olmsted County, Minn., and engaged in farming. Family differences caused them finally to separate, and Mr. Dosdall subsequently died in the state of Washington. His wife afterwards became the wife of Mike Johnson and died at Ripon, Wis., February 4, 1914. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Dosdall, three sons and two daughters are now living, namely: Christ, Mike, Fred, Amelia and Bertha. Amelia is the wife of E. N. York of Hammond. Bertha is the widow of Charles Uhl and lives at Ripon, Wis. Fred Dosdall was reared on the home farm, and in his boyhood attended district school. On reaching the age of 17 he abandoned the farm to learn the carpenter's trade, which he has since followed, as an additional occupation running a threshing machine during threshing time. He owns 80 acres of timber land in Hyde Park Township. Mr. Dosdall has resided in Hammond for 34 years, having taken up his residence here in 1886, at which time there were but three houses in the village, so he is well known here and throughout the vicinity and enjoys considerable popularity. He was married at Ripon, Wis., June 4, 1876, to Rosa Gneiser, a native of that state, who died February 28, 1895. They had been the parents of eight children, of whom six are now living, namely: Anna, wife of Albert F. Fuerstnau of Hammond; Laura, who married Ernest Brown of Menomonie, Wis.; Lillie, wife of Will Wegner of Zumbro Township; Ella, wife of Fred Dittmer of Hammond; Charles, who is married and lives in Hammond, and Fred E., a painter and decorator of Hammond. In 1889 Mr. Dosdall married Josephine Brandt-Schroeder, who was born in Wisconsin, daughter of George and Mary Brandt, her parents being natives of Germany who settled in Wisconsin in the early fifties.

Francis A. Stowell, one of the pioneers of Mazeppa, was born in Paris, Maine, April 18, 1816, a son of Daniel Stowell. His first ancestors in this country came from England to New England at an early day. In 1849 or 1850 he came west to Platteville, Wis., and there married in September, 1850, Eunice L. Deming, who was born at West Rutland, Vt., October 8, 1829. In 1855 he came with his family to Mazeppa, Minn., taking a claim near the village, where he resided until 1870. For seven years he served as justice of the peace in Mazeppa. In 1870 Mr. Stowell removed to Lac Qui Parle County, settling on a farm near the village of the same name, where he lived until 1903. He died at Cashmere, Wash., November 20, 1906. His wife died January 9, 1901. They had a family of eleven children, of whom nine grew to maturity, and six are now living, namely: Elmer E., April 8, 1861; Addie M., born March 6, 1863; Winona M., February 16, 1865; Samuel F., December 1, 1867; Francis Eugene, May 28, 1871, and Alice E., October 7, 1873, who married Evan Taylor. Those deceased are Albert D., Louis F., Irene, Eunice, Louis Francis and Leslie B.

Albert D. Stowell, who was one of the early arrivals in Mazeppa, and for many years a prominent figure in this part of the county, was born at Platteville, Wis., August 5, 1851, son of Francis A. and Eunice L. (Deming) Stowell. He was only four years old when he accompanied his parents to Wabasha County, locating with them on a farm near Mazeppa. Subsequently he attended school in Mazeppa, and spent a year and a half at the Minnesota State University. During the rest of his life he followed farming in Chester Township. He served in various local offices, being justice of the peace and at different times town treasurer, a member of the board of supervisors, and a member





MR. AND MRS. ALBERT D. STOWELL







of the school board. In 1863 he enlisted in the army for service in the Civil War, and was discharged September 27, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn., with an honorable record. Mr. Stowall was married September 19, 1873, to Melinda Philley, daughter of David L. and Clarissa L. (Eaton) Philley, her parents being natives of New York state who settled in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1868. Her father subsequently acquired over 3,000 acres of land in this state. He died March 28, 1903. His first wife, Clarissa, died December 23, 1893, and on December 19, 1894, he married Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell, of Lac Qui Parle County, who survives him, and resides in Mazeppa. Albert D. Stowell died June 25, 1905, and was survived by his wife, who is also a resident of Mazeppa. Mr. Stowell was to all intents and purposes a pioneer of this county, and left a good record of duty well performed and valuable work accomplished as a builder up of the county. His name will occupy an honorable place in its annals.

**Frederick Thierstein**, deceased, was a man who, through his agricultural years in Wabasha County, accomplished things. A hard worker, thorough in all his undertakings, strong of heart and character, he was honored and respected by his family and neighbors. He was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, May 30, 1833, was educated in his native land and grew to manhood on his father's estate. When a young man he learned both the miller's and baker's trades, which he followed until coming to America. While in Switzerland he was a soldier in the standing army, being attached to the artillery. On October 22, 1858, he was married in Switzerland to Anna Verna Gaumann, who was born in Canton Berne, October 1, 1836. In 1868 they came to America and for eight years were located at La Crosse, Wis., where Mr. Thierstein was engaged in farm labor. In 1876 they came to Wabasha County and located in Gillford Township, buying first 80 acres in section 31. At different times Mr. Thierstein added to his possessions until he had 240 acres, all in Gillford Township, except 40 acres across the line in Chester Township. He also bought 160 acres in Franklin County, Wash. He erected a fine set of buildings on his Gillford farm and there successfully followed diversified farming until his death, October 7, 1908. When in Switzerland he and his wife were members of the Reformed church, but after coming to this country they joined the Methodist Episcopal church. To them were born eight children: Fred O., of Gillford Township; Anna O., who married W. W. Churchill and died in 1883; Ida E., who after her sister's death married W. W. Churchill and now resides with her husband in Rochester, Minn.; Lina T., now Mrs. J. B. Radabaugh of Gillford Township; Rosa L., now Mrs. C. W. Radabaugh of Zumbro Falls; Rudolph J., of Portland, Ore.; Bertha R., wife of F. G. Heise of Red Wing; and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Thierstein, who is still living, is a very accomplished lady, thoroughly informed on all county, state and national affairs. She speaks, reads and writes four languages, having educated herself in English after coming to the United States. Though now 84 years old, she is still in full possession of her faculties, in fact, is a living encyclopedia, and it is a great pleasure to converse with her. Both her parents were born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, her father, Nicholas Gaumann, in 1812, and he died there in 1874. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, the owner of a large farm or estate, and for five years was county treasurer, which in his country was considered a high office, accorded only to men of high merit. Mrs. Thierstein's mother, Anna (Durig) Gaumann, was born in 1813 and died in 1844.

**Jackson Brandt Radabaugh** is a farmer and considerable land owner in Gillford Township. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, on May 8, 1852. His parents were both born in the United States. Samuel Radabaugh was born in 1825 and Catherine (Brandt) Radabaugh on October 30, 1822. They were married in Ohio. In 1856 they emigrated to Iowa, where they remained two years. In 1858, with five small children, they emigrated to Wabasha County, Minn., in a covered wagon with a team they owned while still in Ohio. This



was the first team of horses in Gillford Township. They homesteaded 160 acres of wild land in section 30, Gillford Township. An Indian trail from Wabasha to Faribault ran through their farm, along which the Indians frequently passed. Samuel Radabaugh volunteered his services during the Civil War on February 20, 1864, and was mustered into the 10th Minnesota Infantry. After a few months of service he died on September 27, 1864, of typhoid fever at Ft. Snelling. He assisted in building the Lincoln church in Gillford Township, and was the first superintendent of the Sunday school there, also president of the first temperance society. His wife and six children survived him, namely: Naamen, now living in Minneapolis; Emma, of Boise, Idaho, widow of Benjamin Clark; Ethel, deceased; Jackson, of Gillford Township; Charles, residing near Zumbro Falls, and Catherine, of Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Radabaugh died December 17, 1904. Jackson Radabaugh remained on the homestead which he and his brother Charles operated for their mother until 1895, when he moved to a farm of 93 acres one-half mile south of the old home. Since then he has added considerable to his holdings and now he and his wife together own 600 acres of land all in Gillford Township, of which 500 are tillable and the rest pasture and timber. He is engaged in general farming, keeps good stock, and has full operating equipment. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator, Farmers' Co-operative Creamery and the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank, in which his wife and son are also stockholders. He is also a member of the Farmers' Shipping Association. Mr. Radabaugh was married June 29, 1888, to Lena T. Thierstein, daughter of Frederick and Anna Thierstein of Gillford Township. She was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, May 22, 1865, and came to Wabasha County, Minn., with her parents in 1876. Her father died October 7, 1908; her mother, who was born October 1, 1836, is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Radabaugh are the parents of two children: Rudolph C., born March 17, 1890, and Nina Catherine, born July 1, 1895. She is a graduate of the Mazzeppa High School and also attended Carleton College at Northfield, Minn. Dr. Rudolph C. Radabaugh graduated from the Medical School of the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1916. He is now located at Hastings, Minn. He served as First Lieutenant in the Medical Corps of the U. S. army during the World War, first at Columbus Barracks, Ohio, and later for several months at Camp Custer, Michigan. He had received his equipment for over sea service when the armistice was signed. Dr. Radabaugh holds the degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of Illinois. He is a member of five college fraternities, is commander of the American Legion Post at Hastings, Minn., and is prominent in Masonry, having taken all the degrees. He is a member of the Saladin Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Michigan. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is president of the Commercial Club at Hastings, Minn. Jackson Radabaugh and family are Republicans politically and have always been strong advocates of prohibition. He and his family occupy high social standing in Gillford Township.

**John H. Wood**, a well known farmer of Zumbro Township, where he owns and operates a farm of 150 acres in section 31, was born in Grant County, Wis., January 25, 1853, son of Samuel and Mary (Williams) Wood. The father, who was a native of Indiana, died while serving in the Civil War. The mother was a native of Kentucky. John H. Wood was educated in the district school, and remained in Wisconsin until 1874, when he came to Minnesota. For a few years he rented a farm, and then bought 80 acres in Olmsted County, which he later sold, at the same time buying his present farm of 150 acres in section 31, Zumbro Township. Here he has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising with profitable results, and is respected as an industrious and useful citizen. Mr. Wood was married October 6, 1878, to Lucy Jenkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Jenkins, who were early settlers in Zumbro Township. The issue of this marriage has been twelve children, of whom nine are living, the full list being as follows: Ned, Albert, Samuel, Matie (now Mrs.





JOHN H. WOOD AND FAMILY







William Carley of Oronoco), Clarence (deceased), Walter, Rose (now Mrs. William Fetzner), Arthur (deceased), Helen (deceased), William, Lila and John. James Jenkins, father of Mrs. John H. Wood, was born in Augusta, Maine, and his wife in Illinois. They came to Minnesota with their respective parents. They were married in Wabasha County, where they engaged in farming for the rest of their lives. Mr. Jenkins served as clerk of Zumbro Township for 20 years. He died in 1897 and his wife in 1896. They had two children: Lucy, wife of John H. Wood, and Elmer, who resides in Minneapolis.

**Edward M. Lair**, proprietor of a paying confectionery business in the village of Elgin, was born here November 16, 1889, son of Charles M. and Martha (Beyer) Lair. The father was born in Trenton, N. J., and was there reared and educated. For a number of years he followed the trade of a painter, and was later employed as a cheese-maker in Elgin, Minn., until his death on December 25, 1886. He was a Free Mason and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He and his wife were the parents of two children: Lottie, born March 27, 1887, now Mrs. Oscar Scharlow of Rochester, Minn.; and Edward M., the subject of this sketch. The latter received his education in the Elgin village school. After working on his parents' farm until the age of 20 years, he followed the trade of painter until 1910. For eight years subsequently he was engaged in buying cream and hides. Since he gave up that occupation he has carried on his present business as proprietor of a well equipped confectionery store in Elgin. The business has grown and is on a profitable basis, and Mr. Lair is numbered among the enterprising and successful men of the village. He was married September 6, 1912, to Eva McCullough, and he and his wife are the parents of two children: Ronald B., born June 28, 1914; and Violet, born June 29, 1917.

**Andrew Binner**, of Greenfield Township, who is engaged in mixed farming, including the raising of garden produce and stock, was born in this township December 7, 1885, son of Matt and Bridget (Weber) Binner. He was educated in the district school and spent his early years on his parents' farm, working for his father, during which period he acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture. In 1905 he changed his occupation, going to work at the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a while. After that, for six winters, he was engaged in operating a jig-saw, while in the summers he conducted a dray line in Caledonia, Minn., in partnership with Keating and Clifford. In 1907 he bought a team and did some farming near Wabasha village, and during the following three years did team work in the village. In 1915 Mr. Binner again turned his attention to farming, this time on a more extensive scale and on his own account, renting 202 acres of land in Greenfield Township known as the Amerland farm. At the end of four years he bought the place, which he is still operating, and which he has improved by the erection of a chicken-house, garage and other buildings. He raises good stock and is doing a paying business. As a good citizen he is alive to the general interests of the community, and has rendered service on the school board of district No. 30. Mr. Binner was married September 3, 1913, to Margaret Grass, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grass of Wabasha village. Her parents were both born in this county. Mrs. Frank Grass died June 13, 1893, and Mr. Grass subsequently married for his second wife Mrs. Mary Tuma. To Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Binner three children have been born: Franklin A., January 15, 1916; Joseph M., September 29, 1917, who died October 18, the same year; and Dorothy T., born November 19, 1918. Mr. Binner and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he also belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the St. Joseph Society.

**Howard H. Bigelow**, a respected citizen and prominent farmer of Elgin Township, was born in this township, May 4, 1880, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Bigelow. He was educated in the schools of the village and township, and until 21 years of age remained on the home farm, where he gained skill in agri-

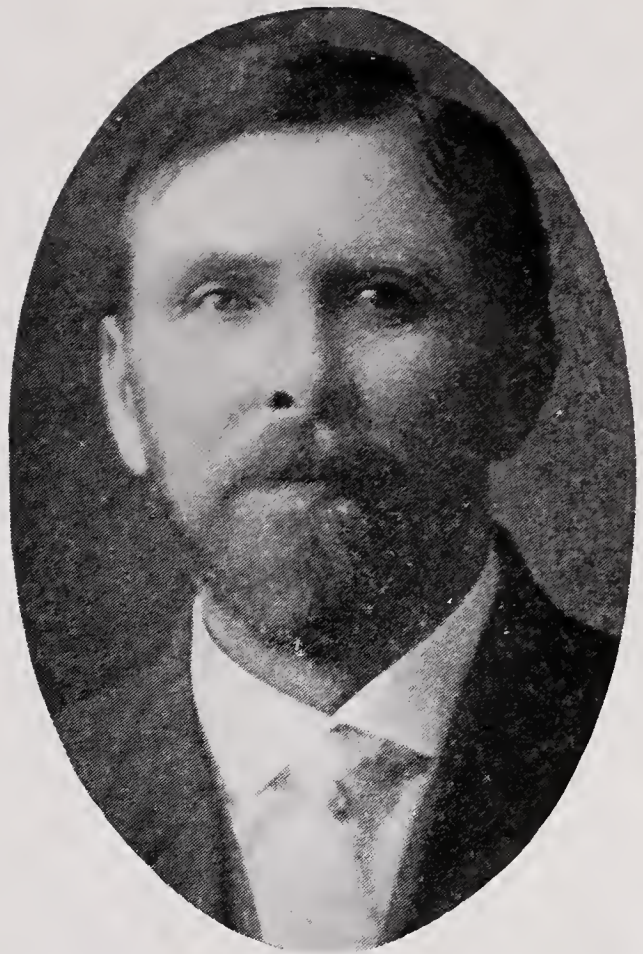
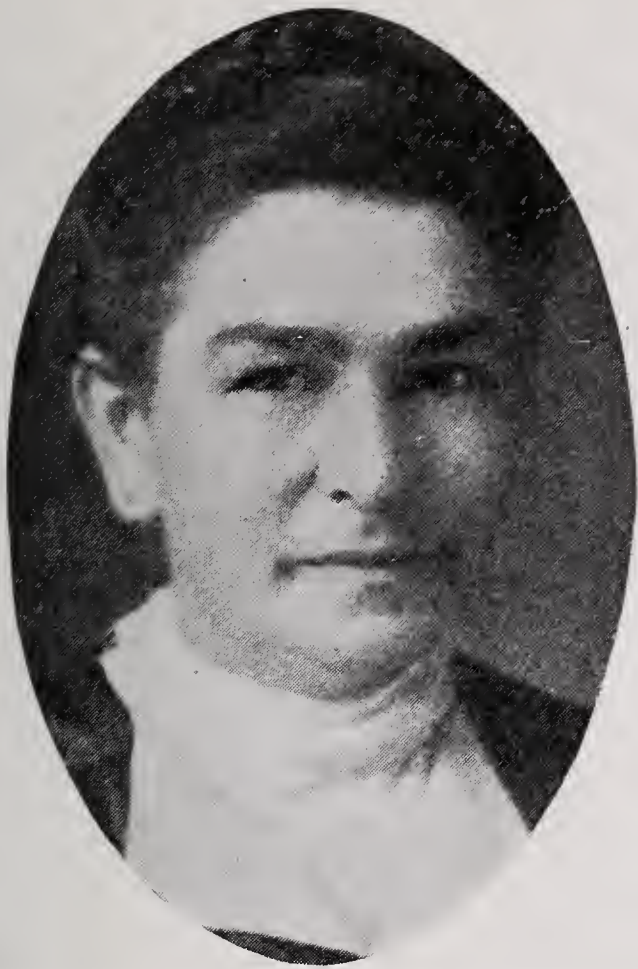


culture. On coming of age he rented 200 acres of the farm from his father, which he operated on his own account until 1911. In that year he bought his first 80 acres, and has since purchased some land each year, now owning 400 acres in sections 28 and 29, Elgin Township. His improvements have kept pace with his land purchases and his place is well developed, the land productive and the buildings in good condition. As a general farmer he is adding to his own wealth and is a useful factor in the agricultural improvement of his township. In religion he is a Catholic, and belongs fraternally to the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Bigelow was united in marriage, October 7, 1908, with Matilda Schad, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Schad. Six children are the issue of this marriage, namely: Leo H., born April 8, 1912; Frank C., March 25, 1913; Charles E., in November, 1914; Louis, June 25, 1916; Lucile M., and Irene A., the latter born March 17, 1919.

**Harry J. Koepsell**, who is engaged in general farming and stock raising in section 20, Elgin Township, was born in this township, March 11, 1898, son of Ferdinand H. and Mary (Nelson) Koepsell. The father was born in Dodge County, Wisconsin, May 9, 1867, and came to Elgin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., in 1895, buying 80 acres of land in section 23. In 1899 he sold that farm and bought one of 340 acres in sections 20 and 21, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising, and now has a fine home with good buildings. He served three years as a member of the town board. His marriage to Mary Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Nelson, took place January 29, 1896, and they lived together in happy wedlock for 22 years, or until her death after being seven years in poor health, on May 10, 1918. They were the parents of four children: Arthur D., born November 5, 1897, who died in December, 1898; Harry J., subject of this sketch; Henry E., born March 14, 1900, residing at home; and George A., born April 2, 1902, who is employed in a bank at Rochester, Minn. Harry J. Koepsell was educated in the Elgin village school, and received a practical training in agriculture from his father, for whom he worked until 1919. He then rented his present farm of 120 acres in section 20, where he is now carrying on general farming and stock raising on a profitable basis, and is recognized as one of the enterprising and successful farmers of this township. Harry J. Koepsell was married March 28, 1919, to Agnes Maas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Maas. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church, in which he was reared and to which his father belongs.

**Jacob J. Sprenger**, one of the leading citizens of Chester Township, where he owns and operates an excellent farm, was born in La Crosse County, Wisconsin, June 8, 1867, son of Jacob J., Sr., and Catherine (Scholer) Sprenger. The father was born at Zurich, Switzerland, January 3, 1824. He was reared to manhood in his native land and there married his first wife. With her and their two children, Mary and Anna, he came to the United States in 1854, in April of that year settling in La Crosse County, Wisconsin. There his wife died in the spring of 1865. Of the two daughters mentioned, Mary is deceased, and Anna is now Mrs. F. Sugg, of Zumbro Falls, Wabasha County. By his first wife Jacob J. Sprenger, Sr., also had a son, Henry, who is now residing in Tacoma, Washington. In 1866 Mr. Sprenger married for his second wife Catherine Scholer, of Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn. For nine years longer he continued his residence in La Crosse County, and then, on October 2, 1875, he moved with his family to Wabasha County, Minnesota, locating on a homestead in Chester Township, near Zumbro Falls. There he died September 5, 1877. He had three children by his second wife, Catherine, namely: Jacob J., Jr., subject of this sketch; Christina, who died in infancy, and Emil, who is now living on the old homestead. Mrs. Catherine Sprenger survived her husband many years, passing away on the old home farm in Chester Township, on July 29, 1906. Jacob J. Sprenger (Jr.) attended district school in Chester Township to the age of 16 years, and pursued additional studies for one winter





MR. AND MRS. JACOB J. SPRENGER, JACOB J. SPRENGER RESIDENCE







at Galena, Ill. In 1902 he took an extended short course in the Minnesota Agricultural College. Previous to this, however, he had married, having been united January 19, 1891, with Louisa W. Moechnig, who was born in West Albany Township, October 2, 1868, daughter of Frederick and Caroline (Deppa) Moechnig. For ten years he and his wife resided on his parents' homestead. In 1895 Mr. Sprenger had bought a farm of 232 acres in section 36, Chester Township, to which he moved with his family in the fall of 1901, and in the same year (1901) he purchased 100 additional acres. The land was improved, but the buildings small and poor. He has since bought other land, now owning 500 acres all in one body. In 1902, the year after he moved onto the farm, Mr. Sprenger began a series of improvements, erecting a modern barn, the main part of which measures 38 by 80 by 16 feet, with a full stone basement of nine feet, and with a wing 26 by 60 feet, used for hay. In 1908 he built a fine two-story brick residence of eleven rooms, and with modern equipment; in 1909 he erected a tile silo of 180 tons' capacity, and in 1911 a second silo of 150 tons' capacity. He has also a good set of other buildings, including toolsheds, a granary, poultry-house, and corn cribs. The farm lies one mile west of Zumbro Falls, in sections 25 and 36. Mr. Sprenger is operating 200 acres of his land, carrying on diversified farming, another part of the farm, containing 180 acres, being operated by his son-in-law, Albert Starz. Still another section of it—of 120 acres—is seeded and fenced for stock. At one time Mr. Sprenger was extensively engaged in dairying, milking as high as 30 cows. He raises high grade Holstein cattle to a yearly average of 100 head; also from 30 to 50 head of pure blood Duroc-Jersey hogs. His horses are all pure bred Belgians, and his farm equipment includes a tractor, threshing machine and clover-huller, with all other necessary tools and machinery. For the past twelve years Mr. Sprenger has been actively engaged in Farmers' Institute work in Minnesota, the first three years as an assistant and the last seven years as conductor. He is a director and stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Zumbro Falls; a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery and the Farmers' Elevator Company of the same place, being a director in the latter company; and is a stockholder and the president of the Farmers Telephone Company of Zumbro Falls. In addition to these numerous activities, Mr. Sprenger has devoted a part of his time to public affairs. He served four years in the office of county commissioner, was chairman of the county board two years, and is treasurer of School District No. 80, consolidated schools. He and his wife have been the parents of seven children: Clara C., born December 28, 1892; Henry F., February 2, 1894; Anna May, April 4, 1898; Bessie L., August 10, 1901; Ruth E., May 9, 1903; Edwin L., September 23, 1905, and Joyce J., February 18, 1908. Clara C. was married, December 19, 1912, to Edward Starz of Chester Township, and died June 16, 1919. She was the mother of three children: Ruth, born December 23, 1913; Elmer, born February 23, 1915, who died in infancy; and Elvin, born May 10, 1916. Ruth and Elvin Starz are residing with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sprenger. Henry F. Sprenger died in his fourth year, October 5, 1897. Anna May was married, May 28, 1919, to Albert Starz, a farmer of section 35, Chester Township, who served in the World War. They have a son, Alfred G., born February 18, 1920. Mr. Sprenger and his family are members of Zumbro Falls M. E. church, of which he is a trustee. He also teaches a Sunday school class which has a membership of forty. He has for many years been a strong advocate of Prohibition, though politically a Republican. As a man of enterprise who has achieved marked success in his personal affairs, and has taken helpful part in the governmental matters of his township and county, he is well known throughout this section, and he and his family highly respected.

Albert Starz, who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Chester Township, was born at Lockhart, Norman County, Minn., April 2, 1892, son of Gottlieb and Rose (Scholer) Starz. The parents were farmers who retired



in 1914 and moved to Zumbro Falls, where they are now living. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have had the following named children: Charles, Lydia, Caroline, Clara, Edward, Matilda, Lillie and Albert (twins), Emil and William. Matilda and Lillie are now deceased. Albert Starz acquired a common school education at Lockhart, and worked for his father until 1909. He then came to Chester Township, Wabasha County, and for several years was engaged in farm labor. Then for 17 months he drove a mail route. On September 17, 1917, he was drafted into the army from Wabasha, and became a member of Co. H, 136th U. S. Infantry, from which organization he was transferred across seas to Battery F, 119th Field Artillery. For ten months he saw service in France, and during three months and a half was at the front. He was discharged from the army May 17, 1919, and is now a member of the American Legion. After his return home Mr. Starz bought his present farm of 40 acres in section 35, Chester Township, on which he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, breeding high grade cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He was married May 28, 1919, to Anna M. Sprenger, daughter of Jacob J. and Louise W. (Moechnig) Sprenger, her father being a prominent farmer and leading citizen of Chester Township, where she was born April 4, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Starz are the parents of one child: Alfred G., who was born February 18, 1920.

Jesse E. Lewis, proprietor of a good farm of 80 acres in section 2, Elgin Township, was born in Viola Township, Olmsted County, Minn., July 11, 1890. For the last thirty years his parents, Charles E. and Etta (Ross) Lewis, have resided in the village of Beaver, where the father operates the mill. They have had three children: Jesse, Gladys and Verda. Gladys is now the wife of Robert Richardson. Jesse E. Lewis was educated in the Beaver village school. For several years he followed the occupation of farm laborer in the vicinities of Beaver and Plainview. Finally he started in for himself, in 1910 renting a farm of 120 acres in Whitewater Valley, where he resided for several years. Then he took another farm of 120 acres in the same valley, afterwards a farm of 80 acres, and then a farm near Beaver village, all of which he rented. In 1907, having made good financial progress he bought his present farm in section 2, Elgin Township. Here he has built a beautiful modern seven-room house, together with a good barn and outbuildings. On November 19, 1910, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage with Mary Cassidy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cassidy, formerly of Grand Rapids and Minneapolis, Minn. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Jessalyn R., born October 4, 1911; Gaylord E., born June 9, 1913; and Charles E., born September 12, 1916. Mr. Lewis and his family are members of the Catholic church, while fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

Edward H. Goetz, proprietor of a good 80-acre farm in Plainview Township, which he has brought into good condition, was born in this township April 15, 1888, son of August Goetz, Sr. He was educated in the rural school of his district, and remained on the home farm in section 28 until 22 years old, working for his father. He then rented the farm for four years, and at the end of that time purchased it. Since then he has made some needed improvements in the property, having remodeled the buildings. He carries on diversified farming and truck gardening, raising cabbage, onions and potatoes with profitable results, and also breeds Guernsey cattle and Percheron horses. Mr. Goetz was married September 14, 1911, to Anna Holst, who was born in Plainview Township, March 7, 1891, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Holst. Of this union two children have been born: Kenneth D., August 10, 1912; and Everett E., May 26, 1914. Mr. Goetz and his family are members of the Lutheran church. As an industrious farmer and good citizen he commands respect, and is making steady progress in worldly prosperity.

Robert Funke, who is extensively engaged in farming and stock raising in Highland Township, and is financially interested in several important indus-



tries more or less related to agriculture, was born in Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, Minn., April 19, 1869. His parents, Christ and Wilhelmina (Reichenbach) Funke, were natives of Germany, the father coming to the United States at the age of 21, and the mother at the age of 12 with her parents. He came directly to Wabasha, Minn., where he lived for six or seven years, being engaged in rafting on the Mississippi river, during which time he made several trips by raft to St. Louis. At the end of that period he came to Glasgow Township, Wabasha County, and homesteaded 160 acres in section 21. There he farmed for about fifty years, or until he retired and moved to Wabasha, where he is now living. He still owns the farm, renting it out to a tenant. Of the twelve children born to him and his wife, eight are now living: Bertha, a widow residing in California; Gusta, wife of Gust Fitzer of Minneapolis and California; Pauline, wife of Hubert Hoffman of Highland Township; Lawrence, who is on a farm in Glasgow Township; Mary, wife of Jake Schones of California; Frances, wife of John Balow, a button cutter of Iowa; Lavina, wife of Harry Hanson of Wabasha, and Robert of Highland Township. Those deceased are Thomas, Louisa, Maggie and Minnie. Robert Funke was reared on his parents' farm in Glasgow Township and educated in the district school. After remaining at home until 25 years old, he began farming for himself, buying 200 acres in section 6, Highland, to which he has added until he now owns 530 acres in sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, having 250 under cultivation, with the balance in woodland and pasture. He has remodeled the frame house which stood on the farm, has built a barn 36 by 102 feet with 16-foot posts, a cement floor in the basement, and with Franklyn stanchions capable of holding 60 head of cattle and horses; also a granary and hay shed. As a general farmer, stock raiser and dairyman, he is doing a large and profitable business. When 19 years old Mr. Funke bought a threshing outfit and subsequently followed threshing for 32 years, doing work for others until recently, though now he only threshes for himself. He cleared and grubbed 50 acres of his farm. Some years before he came to his present place, there was an old flour mill on the creek, known as the Hanby Mill, which was operated by water. This mill burned down, and two years later, when Mr. Funke came to the place, he built a new mill, operated by the water power from the creek, for grinding feed and meal, which he operated for twelve years. He is a stockholder in the Theilman Bank, the Theilman Creamery, the Wabasha County "Leader," and the Farmers' Terminal Packing Co. of St. Paul. He is also president of the Theilman Elevator Co. His forceful and energetic character has placed him in the front rank of Highland Township's most respected citizens, and for four years he was a member of the board of supervisors. He also served on the school board for 20 years and is now school treasurer. On October 30, 1894, Mr. Funke married Bertha Wagner, daughter of Gottlieb and Mary Wagner of Kellogg. She was one of a family of eleven children, of whom eight are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Funke are the parents of six children, Ervin C., Viola, Wilfred, Irene, Elmer and Emil, all residing on the home farm, which Ervin is helping to cultivate. Mr. Funke and his family are members of the Catholic church, and he belongs also to the Modern Woodmen and the Modern Brotherhood of America.

**Knud Johnson**, in former years a well known farmer and prosperous citizen of Pepin Township, was a native of Norway, and came to this country as a young and single man. At Read's Landing, Wabasha County, Minn., he was married to Laura Stenerson, who, like himself, was born in Norway, and after his marriage he began farming on the river bottoms. After a short time, however, he removed to a farm on top of the ridge in Pepin Township, which farm he spent the rest of his life in developing, his improvements adding to the agricultural resources of the township. In 1907 he became a widower, but survived his wife until October, 1915, when he, too, passed away. Mrs. Laura Johnson was his second wife, as by a previous marriage he had five children, and by her, six. Those by the first marriage were: John, Jennie and Charles,



residing on the home farm, the last mentioned of whom married Emma Rother of Theilman, Wabasha County; Emma, now residing in Winona, the wife of H. C. Stahman; and James, who resides in Crookston, Minn. The children of Mr. Johnson's second marriage were: Tena, wife of Will Bruner, living in California; Mabel, who married Fred Bade and resides in Lake City, this county; Idella, wife of Frank Higgins, of Columbia Falls, Mont.; Will, a resident of Wabasha, who married Anne Churchill; Eva, who married Henry Gierdt, and lives in San Andres, Calif.; and Lloyd Kenneth, a well known farmer of Watopa Township.

**Lloyd Kenneth Johnson**, a rising young farmer of Watopa Township, where he owns an excellent farm, was born in Pepin Township, Wabasha County, Minn., March 27, 1891, son of Knud and Laura (Stenerson) Johnson. On his parents' farm he acquired an early knowledge of agriculture through practical experience, but his education was not neglected, as, after attending the common schools, he continued his studies in the high school at Wabasha until about 16 years old, and later spent two years in the agricultural college at St. Paul. At the age of 20 he rented a farm of 300 acres in Lake Township, this county, which he operated for two years in partnership with his brother Will. He then bought a small place of 80 acres at Wabasha, on which he spent two years, and at the end of that time bought his present farm of 240 acres well up the ridge in Watopa Township. This place, when he took it, presented a very different appearance from what it does today, as the buildings were poor, and it had not been well taken care of. Through his own exertions he has since made it one of the best farms in the township, having carried out extensive improvements, including the construction of good buildings of ample capacity, the putting up of a large amount of fencing, the erection of a good silo, and the installation of all necessary machinery of modern type. He is engaged in diversified farming, and keeps good stock, including Guernsey cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. His residence is also a neat and commodious building, well painted and kept in excellent condition, and he is regarded by his neighbors as a man who knows how to do things, and who, in the natural course of events, has a bright future before him. Mr. Johnson was married May 4, 1915, to Minnie Isabelle Failing, who was born in the town of Lake, January 2, 1891, daughter of Eugene and Ida (Watson) Failing. The father was a native of New York state, but came to Minnesota when young; the mother was born in Goodhue County, this state. Both are still living on the home farm. Their family numbered seven children: Herbert, residing at home; Florence, wife of Harry Beck, of Lake City; Clarence, of Seattle, Wash.; Minnie Isabelle, now Mrs. Lloyd K. Johnson; George, a physician, who married Ida May Willoughby, and resides at Lewiston, Minn.; Ernest and Jesse, who are living at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one child, Laura Isabelle, who was born April 28, 1916. Mr. Johnson formerly belonged to the Congregational church at Wabasha. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Johnson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lake City.

**Frank J. Tentis**, a native of Wabasha County, who is engaged in operating a farm of 220 acres in Watopa Township, was born in Glasgow Township, October 17, 1895, son of John and Mary (Seiwart) Tentis. He acquired his education in the school of his district, and until the age of 16 years remained on the home farm, assisting his father. Then he and his brothers bought 360 acres in Glasgow Township, where he did general farming and stock raising until 1911. In that year Frank J. sold his interests to his brothers. In 1916 he worked at the carpenter's trade, and in 1917 and 1918 was employed in a garage. He then resumed farm work for a year. In 1919 he rented his present farm of 220 acres in Watopa Township, and is here doing a good business as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is a member of the Catholic church, and fraternally of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Tentis was married November 25, 1919, to Myrtle Cox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Cox,



of Highland Township, this county. Mrs. Tentis' father is now deceased, having passed away May 18, 1916, but her mother is still living in Highland Township. Mr. and Mrs. Tentis are the parents of a daughter, Rachel J.

**Henry Anderson**, a well known and respected citizen of Elgin, proprietor of a truck line from Elgin to Rochester, was born in Steele County, Minn., December 28, 1894, son of Ole J. and Mary (Ellingson) Anderson. The father, Ole J. Anderson, was a native of Wisconsin, born June 19, 1866. He came to Minnesota with his parents when young, and was educated in the district schools of Berlin Township, Steele County. In 1887 he bought from his father 120 acres of land in that township and began farming on his own account. Later he purchased 240 acres, which he farmed until October, 1919. Then, selling his farm of 320 acres, he moved to Greenbush village, Roseau County. Still later he bought a farm of 160 acres in that county, where he now resides, engaged in general farming. He was chairman of the town board four years, secretary of the creamery three years, and secretary of the telephone company five years. He was married to Mary Ellingson in 1887, and he and his wife have been the parents of twelve children, John, Anna, Eddie, Clara, Harry, Joseph, Jennie, Mary, Edna, Louisa, John and Ole. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Henry Anderson was educated in the district schools of Berlin Township, Steele County, Minn. He lived on the home farm until the age of 18, and after that worked on other farms until February 2, 1914, when he came to Elgin village, finding employment in the creamery, where he worked until March 18, 1915. He then rented his father-in-law's farm until May 1, 1918, and subsequently bought a farm of 120 acres in sections 24 and 25, Viola Township, Olmsted County, which he operated until August 1, 1919. Since that date he has been engaged in his present business, residing in Elgin village. Religiously he is affiliated with the German Lutheran church. Mr. Anderson was married March 24, 1915, to Adella A. Schmiedeberg, daughter of Frank L. and Otillia E. (Roempies) Schmiedeberg. Her father was born January 31, 1869, in Beaver Dam, Wis. When young he came with his parents to Olmsted County, Minn., and was educated in the district schools of Viola Township. He lived on his parents' farm until 24 years of age, and afterwards was engaged until 1907 in farming 120 acres which he had bought of his father in that Township. Subsequently until 1915 he worked as a well driller and clerk in a hardware store, and still later in a garage in Elgin village, until his death on November 30, 1917. His marriage with Ottilia E. Roempies took place November 16, 1893. She was born in Pommern, Germany, January 5, 1871. Their children were: Emma H., now Mrs. Bert Raymond, of Rochester, Minn.; and Adella A., wife of Henry Anderson of Elgin. The Schmiedeberg family are affiliated with the German Lutheran church.

**Ole O. Peterson**, a well known and respected citizen of Watopa Township, assistant in agricultural work to some of the prominent farmers of the township, was born in Sweden, July 30, 1850, son of Paul and Julia (Anderson) Peterson. He came with his parents to the United States and to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1854, when an infant, the family settling on Hoosier Ridge, Watopa Township, which locality has been his home for much of the time since. Here his parents took a farm of 120 acres, which they proved up in 1859, and which the father operated as a general farmer and stock raiser until his death in 1898. His wife had previously passed away in 1893. Their children were: Peter, a Civil War veteran still living; Paul, who resides in Nebraska; Tenna, now Mrs. A. G. Winters of Minneiska; Mary, who is now deceased; and Ole O., of Watopa Township. Ole O. Peterson was reared in this township, in his boyhood attending the district school. He worked on the farm for his father until 1873, and then, cutting loose from home, went to Washington Territory, where he remained for two years. In 1875 he returned and for a few years remained at home. Once more, however, he wandered from his native haunts, going this time to South Dakota, where he spent six years. Re-



turning at the end of that time to Watopa Township, Wabasha County, he has since resided on Hoosier Ridge, working at farm labor, and at the present time being in the employ of John Rollins. He belongs to the Old Settlers' Association of Wabasha County, and is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

**John Gillespie**, the owner of farm property in Chester Township, who has followed an agricultural career since first becoming industrially active, was born in this township August 24, 1873, son of Patrick and Katherine (Dunn) Gillespie. The parents came to the United States from Ireland in 1848, locating in Pennsylvania, in which state they remained two years. Then in 1850 they came to Wabasha County, Minn., and were among the first settlers of Chester Township, pre-empting 320 acres of land in section 6, which, of course, at that early period was all wild. With everything to do and little to do it with, Patrick Gillespie applied himself to the hard task of developing a farm from the wilderness, and in time was successful, clearing most of his land and erecting a full set of buildings. He energetically continued his operations until they were brought to an end by his death in 1888. His wife, Katherine, survived him a number of years, passing away in 1919. They were faithful members of the Catholic church. Their children were Margaret, Michael, John, Patrick, Francis, Julia, Catherine, Mary, who died in infancy, and Mary E., who is also now deceased. John Gillespie in his boyhood attended district school in Chester Township, and was brought up on the home farm, where he acquired his very practical knowledge of agriculture. After his father's death he conducted the farm for his mother, and in 1910 he bought a part of it, renting the balance. He is a man of high reputation in Chester Township, and served 17 years on the town board, during a part of the time being its chairman. He has also served ten years on the school board of his district, being chairman during that period, and is still holding that office. A man of public spirit, his participation in public affairs had been to the interest of the township and school district. He is a member of the Catholic church and belongs to the fraternal order of Yeomen. Mr. Gillespie was married June 26, 1901, to Mary Majerus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Majerus of Mazeppa. The issue of this marriage is nine children, who were born as follows: Mildred C., June 7, 1902; Geneva H., November 24, 1904; Odella J., November 27, 1906; Francis P., October 8, 1908; Elmer M. and Wilmer P. (twins), May 16, 1910; Rosella M., February 28, 1911; Margaret F., August 28, 1913, and Louisa L., February 27, 1918.

**Frank H. Beyer**, manager of the Oelkers & Frisch general store at Elgin, was born in Hammond, Minn., January 16, 1897, son of Herman and Dora (Summers) Beyer. Both the father and mother came from Germany with their respective parents, and Herman Beyer has followed general blacksmithing in Hammond for the last 25 years. Their children are: Robert, who lives in Austin, Minn.; Norton, residing in Hammond; Frank H., of Elgin; Carl, of Millville; Fred, who lives on a farm near Hammond; Della, who is taking an educational course in La Crosse; and Elsie, residing at home. Frank H. Beyer was educated in the Hammond school and the Winona high school. He began industrial life as his father's assistant in the blacksmith shop, and after leaving school worked three years as clerk for Tom McGuigan of Millville. In October, 1918, he enlisted in the 126th U. S. Engineers, and was in the service in this country until discharged at Camp Dodge in June, 1919. After his return home he re-entered the employ of Mr. McGuigan at Millville, remained there four months, and then, coming to Elgin, went to work for Harry Engel. The latter subsequently sold his store to Oelkers and Frisch, who made Mr. Beyer manager, which position he is now filling to the satisfaction of his employers. The concern has added a complete line of dry goods and men's furnishings to their original stock, and are now operating one of the best general stores in this part of the county. Mr. Beyer has joined the new patriotic order of the American Legion, belonging to the post at Plainview, which has about 200 members. He also belongs to the Millville camp of Modern Woodmen of America and the



Red Men's lodge at Millville. A young man of 23 years, he has already shown business ability and has associated himself with a large and patriotic organization which includes a considerable percentage of the young men who fought, or offered their services to fight, for their country in the great World War.

**Alfred F. Kenitz**, a respected resident of the village of Elgin, where he is living retired after a successful career in agriculture, was born in Olmsted County, Minn., July 25, 1878, son of Herman and Elizabeth (Schacht) Kenitz. The father came to America from Germany with his parents, who first settled in Wisconsin, removing to Olmsted County, Minn., when he was 16 years old. There he resided until 1911, when he moved to Lake City, his present place of residence. His wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Kenitz, died in 1910. She was born in Cook County, Ill., on the site of the city of Chicago, where her father owned and operated 160 acres of land now included within the city limits. Not being able to foresee the wonderful growth of the city, he sold the land and moved to Winona, Minn., subsequently taking a farm a mile from Potsdam. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kenitz had a family of eleven children, of whom the nine now living are: Emma, Aaron, Walter, Frances, Clarence, Anna, Evaline, Edna and Harry. Emma is the wife of A. W. Hogerty, a farmer of Olmsted County. Anna is the wife of Lester Fiegel of Rochester, her husband being auditor of Olmsted County. Walter married Anna Schultz and lives in Elgin. Clarence married Emma Kruger and resides on a farm half a mile south of Potsdam, Minn. Alfred F. Kenitz spent his early years on the farm. He was educated in the district school, in the public school of Elgin, which he attended for two years, and at Rochester Business College. Upon completing his studies he rented a farm, which he worked for three years. He then purchased 340 acres in Wabasha County, which he operated for two years. At the end of that time he sold the property and bought the home farm in Olmsted County, where he subsequently carried on general farming and stock raising until the fall of 1919, when he sold that also and moved to Elgin. A good practical farmer, he had a successful career and gained a competency which he is now enjoying. For four years Mr. Kenitz served as clerk of Farmington Township, and was school treasurer five years, showing efficiency and a commendable interest in public affairs. Mr. Kenitz was married October 15, 1905, in the town of Farmington, to Edith Thedens, daughter of Joseph and Anna (Podalsky) Thedens, her parents being natives of Germany who settled at an early day on a government claim in Olmsted County, Minn. Mr. Thedens died in 1908 and Mrs. Thedens in 1917. They had a family of eleven children, of whom there are living: Clara, wife of L. W. Beneke; Lena, wife of Gust Schultz; William, who first married Ella Blanchard, and secondly, Mamie Siem, a widow; and Henry, who married Clara Wanke and lives on the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred F. Kenitz are the parents of two children: Erwin, born in 1906; and Alpheus, born September 29, 1917.

**Robert W. Bartz**, proprietor of an up to date plumbing establishment in Elgin village, was born in Elgin, August 4, 1886, son of Julius and Amelia (Radle) Bartz. The father, born in Germany, came with his parents to the United States when eight years old, locating in Potsdam, Minn. After his marriage here he and his wife took a farm in Elgin Township, Wabasha County, on which they spent 20 years of their lives. Julius Bartz died in 1914 and his widow is now living in the village of Elgin. They had twelve children, all of whom are now living, namely: Herman, August, Julius, Edward, Alfred, Robert, Emma, Alvina, Amelia, Bertha, Otellia and Luella. The father was a Civil War veteran, having enlisted at the age of 15 years and served two years. Robert W. Bartz was reared on the home farm, attending the district school and the Elgin high school. He remained at home until 24 years old, and then for five years operated a rented farm on his own account. Coming to Elgin at the end of that period, he engaged in the plumbing business with his brother Herman. This was in 1915, and in 1918 Robert purchased his brother's interest and has



since conducted the business alone. He handles a full line of plumbing and heating equipment, employing a journeyman assistant, and enjoys a monopoly of the trade here, his place being the only plumbing establishment in town. Mr. Bartz was married in 1911 at Pine Island, Minn., to Anna Radke, whose parents came from Germany, locating on their farm in Pine Island in 1900. Their children, four daughters and two sons, are all now living. Mr. and Mrs. Bartz are members of the Lutheran church, and industrious and useful members of the community. Mr. Bartz's brother Alfred served 28 months in the U. S. navy during the recent World War.

**Henry C. Maiwald**, of Plainview, was born in West Albany Township, Wabasha County, Minn., March 22, 1877, son of Ernest and Mary Maiwald. The parents were natives of Germany who came directly from their native land to Wabasha County, Minn., in the late sixties, settling on a farm in West Albany Township. There the father died in 1890, at the age of 55 years, and the mother in 1915, at that of 72. They had a family of nine children, Anna, Fred, Amelia, Pauline, Emma, Lena, Henry, William and Herman. Anna married Oswald Kuehn, of Wabasha, who died leaving her with three children. Amelia married August Schmuser, and resides in Lake City; she had a son who is now deceased. Pauline is the wife of Ed Wempner of Plainview and has two sons. Emma, Lena, Fred and Herman are deceased. William resides on the old home farm in West Albany Township. Henry C. Maiwald married Mary Radtke September 6, 1907. Her parents were William and Wilhelmina Radtke, who came to the United States from Germany in 1878, settling in Plainview village, Wabasha County, Minn. For several years Mr. Radtke worked out by the day, but in 1884 took a farm in Plainview Township, where his wife died in 1900. After the marriage of his daughter, Mary, in 1907, he gave up farming and came to live with her and his son-in-law, Mr. Maiwald. He died in the fall of 1919 at the age of 74 years. There were six children in the Radtke family, of whom three are now dead—Rudolph, Bertha and Eduart, of whom the two former died in Germany, where they were born. The three living are: Mima, wife of Otto Briese; Fred; and Mary, wife of H. C. Maiwald. Mr. and Mrs. Maiwald have one daughter, Florence, who was born June 5, 1907, and who is residing at home. Mr. Maiwald served in various minor offices, including those of school director and pathmaster. In politics he is independent, while he and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

**William Zarling**, one of the skilled agriculturists who helped to develop the resources of Highland Township, was a native of Germany. He married Catherine Laske, a native of the same country, and they settled in St. Charles Township, Winona County, Minn., where Mr. Zarling was engaged in diversified farming until 1892. He then sold out his interests there and came to Wabasha County, purchasing 360 acres in Highland Township, which farm he operated successfully until his death, August 24, 1909. His wife died April 2, 1917. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: Bertha, Lizzie, Herman, August F., Emil, Maggie, Lena, Luddie, William, Caroline and Albert.

**August F. Zarling**, who, though a comparatively young man, has already acquired a competence in the farming industry, and is at present living practically retired in Plainview, was born in St. Charles Township, Winona County, Minn., May 22, 1886, son of William and Caroline (Laske) Zarling. He was educated in the district schools of Winona and Wabasha Counties, and grew to manhood and was trained to agriculture on his parents' farm. In 1910 he started in for himself, buying a farm of 160 acres near the home place, and he and his brother Emil conducted the two farms for six years. August then sold his farm and bought another, of 180 acres, which he greatly improved by fencing and rebuilding some of the buildings and erecting others, including a silo and hog-shed. There he followed diversified farming and stock raising, keeping a good herd of Shorthorn cattle, with a full-blooded sire at the head. His management was good and produced such satisfactory financial results that in the









LOUIS J. JUERS AND FAMILY



fall of 1919 he rented the place to a tenant and moved to Plainview village, where he purchased a nice residence in which he and his family now make their home. He is a stockholder in Smithfield Creamery in Highland Township. Mr. Zarling was married September 29, 1915, to May Miller, who was born in St. Charles Township, Winona County, Minn., December 28, 1891, daughter of Albert and Minnie (Milbrandt) Miller. The children of this union are: Ruth May, born August 26, 1916; and Lorna Dora, born January 28, 1919.

Albert Miller, father of Mrs. A. F. Zarling, was born in Germany, and was married to Minnie Milbrandt in Winona County, of which she was a native. They settled on a farm in St. Charles Township, that county, where they resided until 1903. They then sold that place and moved across the line into Olmsted County, where they purchased a farm on which they are still residing engaged in agriculture. They have six children, Clarence, Roy, May, Della, Edward and Goldie.

**Louis J. Juers**, whose enterprise along agricultural lines has placed him among the leading farmers of Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, December 6, 1875, son of Peter and Catherine Juers. He came to the United States with his parents in 1876, the family settling on an improved farm in Mt. Pleasant Township, this county, and in time Peter Juers became the owner of about 800 acres of land in the township. Louis J. acquired his education in the district school and began industrial life as soon as he was old enough to be useful, for a number of years being engaged in assisting his father. A new epoch in his life began when, on August 14, 1899, he was united in marriage with Mattie Hinsch, daughter of Henry and Margaret Hinsch, of Goodhue County. They began housekeeping on his parents' farm in section 29, Mt. Pleasant Township, and for over 22 years enjoyed a happy married life, which was brought to an end when, on April 9, 1912, Mrs. Mattie Juers died after undergoing an operation for appendicitis. After his wife's death Mr. Juers removed to his present farm, the house being in the same section. The farm now embraces 440 acres, of which he operates 280 acres and rents the balance. His land is situated in sections 20, 29 and 30, Mt. Pleasant Township. It is fertile, and the buildings include a fine two story frame house; a frame barn 42 by 72 by 14 feet, with a full 8-foot basement; a granary 24 by 32 by 14; two machine sheds, a poultry house, a garage and other necessary structures. Mr. Juers has an adequate equipment of modern machinery and owns a seven-passenger Studebaker auto car. He is doing a thriving business, both in grain and stock, keeping high grade Shorthorn cattle, of which he milks on an average of ten cows, Chester-White hogs and Shropshire sheep. For each of his herds he has full-blooded sires, and is constantly improving his stock. Politically he is a Republican, while he and his children are members of the Lutheran congregation at Belvidere. His first born child, Peter Henry Emil, born October 19, 1900, died in infancy. The others, who are living, are as follows: Lillie Marguerite Catherine, born December 24, 1901; Mattie Emma, May 31, 1903; Emanuel Henry John, March 15, 1905; Amandus Henry, November 11, 1906; Henry Claus Louie, October 16, 1908; and Norman Gustav, December 27, 1910.

**Otto Fieck, Jr.**, a well known young farmer of Plainview Township, where he is engaged in operating his father's farm, was born in Prussia, Germany, January 28, 1892, son of Otto, Sr., and Louise (Rarberg) Fieck. His education was begun in his native land, and he subsequently attended district school in Plainview Township after coming to this country with his parents in 1905. After beginning industrial life he was engaged in farm labor near the village of Lewiston, Winona County, Minn., until 1915, since which time he has worked for his father.

**Otto Fieck, Sr.**, proprietor of a good farm of 110 acres in section 33, Plainview Township, was born in Prussia, Germany, May 30, 1863. He was there educated and married Louise Rarberg. With his wife and family he came to the United States in 1905, taking his present farm, where he is successfully en-



gaged in general farming and stock raising. He has made improvements on his place, including the erection of a good cow barn, and has shown himself to be a man of industry and enterprise of the same type as those who laid the foundation of this country's prosperity. In the work of the farm he is ably assisted by his son, Otto Fieck, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Fieck, Sr., are the parents of ten children: William, now in North Dakota; Emma, wife of Charles Bcetke of St. Charles, Minn.; August, residing in North Dakota; Anna, wife of Frank Fieck; Otto, already mentioned as working on the home farm; Louise, wife of James Lemon of North Dakota; Gust, a resident of Winona; Helen and Herman, who are living in North Dakota; and Eleanor, who is at home. The religious affiliations of the family are with the Lutheran church.

**Nicholas Wirtz**, proprietor of a good 80-acre farm in section 5, Plainview Township, and a well known and respected citizen, was born in Germany, July 16, 1887, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Talkus) Wirtz. The family came to America in June, 1891, settling in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where Jacob Wirtz engaged in farming. He continued in that occupation until his death, September 2, 1908. His wife died December 10, 1912. They had two children: Margaret, widow of Theodore Klassen; and Nicholas, subject of this sketch. Nicholas Wirtz was educated in the public school at Theilman, this county. He remained on the home farm until 21 years old, about which time his father died, and he then bought the D. D. Harrington farm of 160 acres east of Plainview, which he operated four years. At the end of that time he sold it and moved to Plainview, where for a year and a half he was agent and local manager for the Standard Oil Company. He then resumed farming, buying a farm of 240 acres at Bremen, Zumbro Township. After three years' residence there he sold the place and bought his present property, then known as the Martin Costello farm, containing 80 acres in section 5. Here he has since been engaged in general agriculture, including dairying and truck farming. He is doing a successful business and has a well improved place. As yet he has not married, his sister Margaret keeping house for him. Her three children, Theodore, Sylvester and Rufina, reside on the farm with her. The family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Wirtz also belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

**John Peter Hinck**, a thriving farmer residing in Mt. Pleasant Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, April 1, 1859, son of Heine D. Hinck and wife, his parents being farmers. He had a common school education in his native land, and in 1882 came to Wabasha County, Minn. For the first five or six years here he worked as a farm hand and saved all he could of his wages, so that in 1889 he was able to buy 160 acres of land in sections 5 and 8, Mt. Pleasant Township. All the land was broken, but there were no buildings. Mr. Hinck erected a fine frame house, a frame barn, silo, and other necessary structures, and developed the farm, conducting it successfully and raising both grain and stock. In 1901 he leased it to his son John and bought 240 acres in sections 4 and 9, in Gilbert Valley, four miles west of Lake City, which is the farm on which he has since resided. He has 110 acres under the plow, and the soil is good and well tilled. It is also well stocked with Shorthorn cattle, Duroc-Jersey swine and Shropshire sheep. The silo is triple-walled, and the other buildings in good condition. Mr. Hinck has been a hard worker and by industry and economy has become prosperous. He was married September 2, 1887, to Engel, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Holtz of Belvidere Township, Goodhue County. Their children are as follows: Ella, now Mrs. Henry Quelle of Florence Township, Goodhue County; Anna, wife of Richard Peterson of Mt. Pleasant Township; John J., a prosperous farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township; Emma, residing in West Albany Township; Heine, of Mt. Pleasant Township; Henry, of West Albany Township; and Edward, Lillie, Clarence and Louis, who are residing on the home farm. Mr. Hinck and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, worshiping with the Belvidere congregation in Goodhue County.



**John J. Hinck**, a representative farmer of Mt. Pleasant Township, residing on the old farm of his parents in section 8, was born here May 27, 1891, son of John Peter and Engel (Holtz) Hinck. He had but little schooling in his youth, having to begin industrial life at an early age, but his training in agriculture was thorough and the right preparation for the career he has followed. He has always remained on the home farm, up to the age of 22 years being associated with his father. In 1913 he began operating the place for himself and is thus occupied at present, with profitable results, doing a good business as a general farmer. The farm is one of the best in the township, and contains 180 acres, with 120 acres under the plow. There is a fine set of buildings, including a two-story frame house of eight rooms; a frame barn, 36 by 60 by 14 feet, with an 8-foot stone basement and modern equipment; a granary 22 by 30 by 14; a double corn-crib with an 8-foot drive, together with a tool shed and garage for Mr. Hinck's five-passenger auto car. There is also a triple-walled silo, 14 by 26, with a 7-foot base. Mr. Hinck keeps Shorthorn cattle and Hampshire and Chester-White hogs, and his operating equipment is modern and complete. He is a member of the Non-partisan League, and he and his family are members of the Belvidere congregation of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Hinck was married November 1, 1916, to Anna Margaret Fitchen, who was born December 21, 1895, daughter of Deidrich and Mary Fitchen of Mt. Pleasant Township. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Elsie Marie, born October 26, 1917; and Alvin Deidrich, born January 26, 1919.

**Charles J. Gerken**, one of the younger farmers in Mt. Pleasant Township, who is well embarked on a prosperous career, was born in section 5, this township, in which he now lives, on June 29, 1898, son of Henry and Anna (Cordes) Gerken. His parents are now deceased, the father having passed away March 28, 1903, and the mother February 15, 1917. Charles J. acquired his elementary education in the district school and afterwards attended a business college at Red Wing. Being the only child of his parents, he came into possession of the home farm, which has an area of 170 acres, ten of which are in a wood lot. The farm is provided with an adequate set of buildings, the residence being a two-story frame structure. The barn has the dimensions of 36 by 60 by 14 feet, with an 8-foot stone basement; and there is a good tool shed, 22 by 36 by 10 feet, and poultry house 16 by 40 by 8 feet. The soil of the farm is productive and Mr. Gerken has 160 acres under the plow, all, in fact, save the wood lot. He follows general farming, keeping high grade Holstein cattle and full-blooded Poland-China swine. Lake City, eight miles east, affords him a convenient market. Mr. Gerken is a good practical farmer, active and industrious, and each year sees him farther advanced on the road of prosperity. Politically he is a Republican, while his religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church.

**John Carrels**, a prosperous and well known citizen of "West Wabasha," where he owns a fine home, was born in Luxemburg, December 6, 1840, his parents being farmers. With them he came to America in 1847, the voyage being made on a sailing vessel which took 65 days to cross the ocean. The family settled at Port Washington, Ozaukee County, Wis., on a farm, and there the subject of this sketch remained until he came to Wabasha County, with his father, in August, 1869, to work in the harvest fields. The father returned to Wisconsin, but John remained here, and for several years worked in a furniture factory in Wabasha city. He then rented land in Greenfield Township, and began farming, which occupation he has followed ever since. He now owns 60 acres in West Wabasha, together with a fine house, and other good buildings, the situation being a beautiful one overlooking the Mississippi river. Mr. Carrels was married January 6, 1887, to Anna Jacobs, whose parents resided in Belle Chester, on the line between Wabasha and Goodhue Counties. Of this marriage was born the following children: Frank, now living on the home farm; John, who is in Alberta, Canada; William, who died in infancy; Elizabeth, residing in Colorado; William, of Wabasha; Clara, living at home; George,



of Alberta, Canada; Henry, deceased; Louis, a farmer in Wabasha County; Edward, on the home farm; Peter, who is employed in the Merchants Bank in Wabasha; Charles, who is engaged in farming; and Josephine, now Mrs. Leo Reister of Kellogg, Minn. Mr. Carrels and his family are members of St. Felix parish, Wabasha, and are people held in high esteem for their sterling qualities of industry, probity and patriotic Americanism. Three of the sons, Edward, Peter and Charles, served in the European war. Edward, who trained at Camp Cody, New Mexico, reached France October 24, 1918, and returned home July 5, 1919. Peter trained at Camp Wadsworth, S. C., and Charles at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill. The two latter did not get over to France.

**William Carrels**, proprietor of a truck and fruit farm on the outskirts of Wabasha City, was born in Wabasha, Minn., July 20, 1881, son of John and Anna (Jacobs) Carrels. He was educated in parochial and public schools in Wabasha, leaving the high school at the age of 20 years. In 1907 he went to Hettinger County, N. D., where he took a homestead of 160 acres, consisting of prairie land. There he remained four years. Then in the fall of 1911 he went to Alberta, Canada, taking a homestead of 160 acres there, 40 miles east of Warner, on which he resided until the spring of 1915. He then returned to Wabasha, Minn., and in 1916 sold both his Dakota and Alberta property. In the fall of 1916 he bought 14 acres within the limits of Wabasha city, on which he is now raising small fruits and garden produce. He has made considerable improvements on the property, in 1917 building a modern seven-room house, furnace-heated, with bath, hot and cold water and electric lights. The house has an outside finish of stucco and is a commodious residence. It is also a home, as on November 14, 1917, Mr. Carrels married Evelyn Jackson, who was born at Read's Landing, Minn., June 10, 1897, daughter of William and Cecelia Jackson, who were later residents of Hibbing, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Carrels have one child, William Wilford, who was born February 27, 1919. Mr. Carrels is a Democrat in politics. While residing in North Dakota he served his township as assessor, and was also for two years justice of the peace. Religiously he and his family are Catholics.

**George P. Melvin**, who has earned a position among the active and successful farmers of Oakwood Township, was born in Plainview Township, Wabasha County, Minn., October 31, 1889, son of Patrick and Louise (Mulcahay) Melvin. He was educated in the Plainview schools and became his father's assistant on the parental farm, where he resided until 1910. His father then gave him 160 acres of land, on which were some small and plain buildings, and here he began farming on his own account. Of an enterprising disposition, he has spent both time and money in improving his place, among his first acts being the remodeling of the house and barn. In 1920, his buildings still being inadequate, he built a new barn, 36 by 72 feet, with a concrete basement and modern equipment, and is following general farming, including stock raising and dairying, with much success, keeping Durham cattle, of which breed he has 14 cows, and Chester-White hogs. Mr. Melvin was married in 1910 at Plainview, Minn., to Bertha Guessner, daughter of John and Theresa (Noll) Guessner, who were early settlers in Wabasha County, and farmers by occupation. Her father is now deceased, but her mother is still living, being a resident of Plainview. Mr. and Mrs. Melvin have two children, Winnifred and Martin, both of whom are living at home. The family are members of the Catholic church.

**Rudolph J. Rheingans**, proprietor of a fine farm of 240 acres in sections 1 and 12, Oakwood Township, is a native of Wisconsin, born March 12, 1878, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rheingans. Brought to Wabasha County by his parents when three years old, he settled with them in Oakwood Township, where he was educated and grew to manhood. At the age of 18 years he went to Alma, Wis., where until the age of 21 he followed the blacksmith's business. Then returning to the home farm in Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, he resumed agricultural work. Subsequently he and his brother, Henry W., pur-



chased the home farm and conducted it together until 1908, when Rudolph bought out Henry's interest, and has since been sole owner. He has made many improvements on the place, and the soil being fertile, he is successfully carrying on mixed farming according to modern methods, breeding Hereford cattle, Shropshire sheep and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union at Theilman, and he and his family belong to the Lutheran church. Mr. Rheingans was married February 6, 1908, to Jennie Rehman, who was born in West Albany Township, this county. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Adeline, born October 28, 1910; and Myra, born December 30, 1912.

**Ole S. Olson**, one of the younger farmers of Oakwood Township, was born in Norway, March 1, 1884, son of Ole and Ingeborg (Thompson) Olson. Both parents were natives of Norway, where Ole, Sr., died when the subject of this sketch was a very small child; but the mother is still living. Ole S. Olson attended the common schools of his native land, and at the age of 19 years, in 1903, he came to America, and at once to Oakwood Township, Wabasha County, Minn., where he began working out as a farm hand. That occupation he followed for 16 years, 13 years of which were spent in the employ of one man, William Polson—a record of continuous service seldom excelled. In 1919 Mr. Olson began agricultural activities on his own account, renting his present farm of 152 acres in section 29, Oakwood Township, where he is following modern diversified farming and stock raising. He keeps a good grade of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, and is prominently identified with the interests of the community. Mr. Olson married Josephine Wurst, who was born January 17, 1894. Of this marriage there is one child, Helen, born May 20, 1920.

**Jeremiah Sullivan**, proprietor of a good farm of 232 acres in West Albany Township, was born in the city of New York, August 20, 1855, son of Jeremiah and Margaret (Burke) Sullivan. He came to Wabasha County, Minn., with his parents in 1864, and for a limited period attended District School No. 23 in West Albany Township. Until 1883 he worked on the home farm with his father, and then through the latter came into possession of 120 acres, to which, through several different purchases, he has since added until he now owns a farm of 232 acres. Of this he has 125 acres under the plow, the balance being in pasture and timber. He has erected a comfortable house and other buildings, and is doing a good business as a general farmer, giving particular attention to the raising of stock and hay. Millville, five miles distant, is his principal market, Lake City being twelve miles away. Mr. Sullivan is a staunch Democrat in politics. He is a member of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Patrick's parish. Industrious and frugal, he is respected by his fellow townsmen, and is a man of mark and influence in the community.

**Walter E. Kinitz**, an active business man of Elgin village, where he is popular as a man and citizen, was born in Olmsted County, Minn., August 6, 1879, son of Herman G. and Elizabeth (Schacht) Kinitz. The father was born in Germany in October, 1851. He came to the United States when young and was educated in the schools of Princeton, Wis. Subsequently he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in the early sixties came to Minnesota, and worked for his step-father in Elgin Township, Wabasha County. At the age of 24 years he bought 80 acres in Olmsted County and engaged in farming there on his own account. In time he added to his landed possessions until he was the owner of 320 acres in Farmington Township, Olmsted County. In 1911 he moved to Lake City, where he is now living retired and possessed of an ample competence. In 1875 he married Elizabeth Schacht, who proved a loving and faithful helpmeet. She died January 7, 1910. They were the parents of eleven children: Louis, Emma, Alfred, Walter E., Conrad, Francis A., Clarence A., Anna, Eva L., Edna and Harvey R. Walter E. Kinitz acquired his education in the district schools of Farmington Township, Olmsted County. At the age of 20 years he began operating his father's farm in Elgin Township. Four



years later he moved to Aurora, Ore., where he bought a farm of 170 acres, which he operated until April, 1908. He then sold the farm and moved back to Elgin, Minn., taking up his residence in the village, where he is conducting a prosperous business as a painter and paperhanger. Mr. Kinitz was married April 20, 1904, to Anna Schulz. Their home circle has been broadened by the birth of three children: Irene E., born July 13, 1905; Delles F., July 25, 1909; and Vielard H., February 14, 1919. The two elder are attending school in the village.

**Colin Sinclair**, an early settler in Wabasha County, who was for 38 years engaged in the lumber business in Lake City, was born in Ontario, Canada, January 6, 1846. He came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1861. In July, 1862, he enlisted here in Company G, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and from Fort Snelling went with his regiment to the frontier to take part in quelling the Sioux uprising. In November, 1864, he returned to Fort Snelling and was sent to Murfreesboro, Tenn., soon after taking part in the Scully expedition and the Nashville campaign, serving until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Fort Snelling in August, 1865, and on his return to Wabasha County went to live with a brother in Mt. Pleasant Township. Later buying a farm in Lake Township, he followed agriculture there until 1870. In that year he entered the employ of a lumber company operating up the Chippewa Valley in Wisconsin and remained with them subsequently until 1872. Having thus gained a fundamental knowledge of the business, he now opened a lumber yard in Lake City on the site of what is now Oaklyn Park, and this business he conducted subsequently until his death on July 12, 1910. His career was successful and he was long numbered among the leading merchants of the city. On July 14, 1876, Mr. Sinclair was united in marriage with Margaret M. Olider, who was born near Mazeppa, Wabasha County, and who since Mr. Sinclair's death has become the wife of W. B. Gordon of Lake City. The religious affiliations of Mr. Sinclair were with the Congregational church.

**Leon Chester Sinclair**, the enterprising proprietor of a successful moving picture theatre in Lake City, was born in this city July 24, 1887, son of Colin and Margaret M. (Olider) Sinclair. He was educated in the local schools, and subsequently took a course in pharmacy in Wisconsin. For several years he resided in La Crosse, taking up his residence there in 1907. Three years later, in July, 1910, his father, proprietor of a lumber business in Lake City, died, and Leon C. and his brother Earl subsequently conducted the business together until 1914, when they sold it. Earl then engaged in the grocery business in Lake City, and for two years Leon worked for him as clerk. In 1916 the subject of this sketch entered into the moving picture business in Lake City, and since that time has been proprietor of a theatre on the corner of Lyon avenue and Main street. Mr. Sinclair is a York Rite Mason, and has advanced in the order as far as the Commandery, being also a noble of the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows, in which order he has passed through the chairs. Politically he is a Republican. On October 9, 1911, he was united in marriage with Maude Cook, daughter of Edward and Mary Cook, of La Crosse, Wis.

**Henry Roschen** was born in Hanover, Germany, and there married Katherine Detjen. He worked hard as a carpenter, established his little home, and reared four sons, Louis H., Christian, Diedrich and John. In 1885 the eldest son, Louis H., came to America, followed the year later by the next son, Christian. In 1890 these two young men sent for the parents and the other two sons. Upon arriving here, the parents settled on a farm in Goodhue County, this state. In 1901 they came to Lake City, and here Henry Roschen worked at his trade as a carpenter. He died April 23, 1915. His wife died December 9, 1917. Of the four sons, Louis H. and Diedrich are farming in Mt. Pleasant Township, this county. Christian lives retired in Lake City after farming many years in Florence, Goodhue County. John is a Lake City merchant.



**John Roschen**, energetic representative of the business interests of Lake City, is junior partner in the firm of Kemp & Roschen, general merchants. He was born in Hanover, Germany, June 21, 1876, son of Henry and Katherine (Detjen) Roschen. He received his early education in Germany, and in 1890 came to America with his parents and his brother, Diedrich, two other brothers, Louis H. and Christian, having preceded him here. The family settled in Goodhue County, where John started farm work. To better perfect himself in English, he attended rural school for two winters. However, he had little time for study, for he not only had his own way to make in the world, but also to pay his brother Louis for money advanced to pay his passage here. In 1893 the subject of this sketch started work for Michael O. Kemp in his general store. In 1898 he left this employ and became a clerk for H. A. Young & Co., also of Lake City. In 1902 he bought an interest in the Kemp store, and the firm became Kemp, Roschen & Co. In 1914 he became an equal partner and the firm has since been conducted under the name of Kemp & Roschen. Mr. Roschen is one of the substantial, prosperous men of the community, and is taking his part in everything that tends toward the best interests of the city and county. During the World War he was active in the various patriotic and financial drives. Mr. Roschen was married May 18, 1904, to Alvina L. Luth, daughter of Harvey W. and Anna (Brinkhorst) Luth, of Florence Township, Goodhue County. She was born on the home farm January 23, 1881, and received her education in the schools of her neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Roschen are the parents of four children: Harry Louis, born April 4, 1905; Rollie Carl, May 15, 1906; Esther Sophia, May 19, 1910; and Fritz Paul, October 2, 1913. The family faith is that of St. John's Lutheran congregation of Lake City.

**August C. Mussell**, who owns and operates a farm of 150 acres, was born in Quincy Township, Winona County, December 12, 1889, son of Fred and Mary (Drinkhorn) Mussell. The father was born in Germany and the mother in Winona County, Minn. They are now farming in Whitewater Township, that county. It was in the rural schools of Winona County that August C. Mussell acquired his education. Until he was 23 years old he remained on his parents' farm, where he acquired a good practical knowledge of agriculture in its different branches. In 1912 he started in for himself, buying his present farm in section 12, Plainview Township. To the original improvements he has added a garage and hen house and has brought the place into excellent condition. He successfully practices general farming, keeping grade cattle and other good stock, and raising the usual grains and farm products, with profitable results. On April 11, 1912, Mr. Mussell was united in marriage with Ella Matthees, who was born in Winona County, Minn., March 10, 1890. Two children are the issue of this marriage: Aline A., born October 31, 1913; and Raymond A., born February 26, 1918. Mr. Mussell and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

**Louis Gray**, a well known pioneer of Chester Township, where he is still living, was born in Germany, and came to the United States in 1850, settling near Princeton, Wisconsin. With his wife, whose maiden name was Lottie Freiheit, she being also a native of Germany, he came in 1861 to Wabasha County, Minnesota, making the journey with an ox team. The oxen proved useful in the work of breaking and cultivating the tract of 160 acres which they took in Chester Township. For several years they lived in a small frame shanty, after which they were able to erect a good frame house. Subsequently Mr. Gray added two quarter sections to his original tract, which gave him a farm of 480 acres. All this he ultimately brought under cultivation and he has since continued to reside here, though for some time he has been retired from active work, his son Emil operating the farm. Mr. Gray's first wife died in 1870, leaving four children, all of whom are now living, namely: Lenora, wife of Henry Schuler of Ottertail County, Minn.; Albert, of Goodhue County; Emil, residing on the home farm, and Henry R., a prominent business man of



Plainview. After his first wife's death Mr. Gray married Otelia Semp, a native of Germany who came to this country when a young girl. She is still living on the home farm in their fine modern residence.

**Henry R. Gray**, a prominent citizen of Plainview village, where he is conducting a successful garage and auto car business, was born in Chester Township, Wabasha County, Minn., April 8, 1874, son of Louis and Lottie (Freiheit) Gray, pioneers of that locality. He was reared on his parents' farm and resided with them until 30 years of age, in his boyhood attending the district school. In 1906 he went to Zumbro Falls, where he engaged in the hardware business, also operating a garage, and he continued there until he sold out to Alfred Klingworth and moved to Plainview. Here he is handling Ford autos, tractors, and other Ford products, and also operates a garage, keeping a full line of supplies and doing general repairing. While residing in Zumbro Falls he served that village seven years as mayor. He was also vice president of the Zumbro Falls State Bank, and served in several minor offices. As a business man he has made an excellent record, and in Plainview is living up to the reputation which he established in Zumbro Falls. In the latter place he was married, November 20, 1907, to Lydia Welkie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Welkie. Her parents were early settlers in Minnesota. They were born in Germany and were residing in New Ulm, this state, at the time of the Indian uprising in 1862, but receiving notice in time of the threatened attack by the savages, Mr. Welkie hastily hitched up his ox team, and he and his family fortunately made their escape. Many of those who were less prompt fell victims in the massacre which followed. Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Gray are the parents of two children: Maynard, born July 10, 1913, and Hazel B., born August 20, 1909, both of whom are attending school in Plainview.

**Jacob J. Tentis**, a prominent citizen of Glasgow Township, owning and operating a good farm of 360 acres, was born in this township November 28, 1884, son of John and Katherine (Zentz) Tentis. The parents came to this country from Germany in 1860, and settling in Wabasha County, Minn., were prosperously engaged in farming in Glasgow Township until their death. The mother first passed away in 1899, the father dying in 1902. They were worthy and industrious people and consistent members of the Lutheran church. They had nine children: Sophia, Adam, John, Della, Jacob J., Allen, Emil, Frank and Susan. Jacob J. Tentis acquired the elements of knowledge in the school of his district. Afterwards he worked on the home farm for several years and then did general farm labor until 1910. In that year he started in for himself, buying his present farm of 360 acres, located in sections 13, 24 and 25, Glasgow Township. Here he is doing a good business in general farming, keeping full blooded Shorthorn cattle, his barn being equipped with a milking-machine. For the last six years he has served as a member of the local school board. On November 19, 1912, Mr. Tentis was united in marriage with Cynthia Cox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cox of Glasgow Township. He and his wife are the parents of five children: Norman A., born September 12, 1913; Caleb F., born May 30, 1915; Beryl and Meryl (twins), born June 12, 1917; and Delia M., born July 3, 1919. Mr. Tentis is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cox, the parents of Mrs. Tentis, were born in Illinois and came to Wabasha County, Minn., in 1868, settling in Glasgow Township, where they farmed until Mr. Cox's death in 1916. Mrs. Cox is now residing in Highland Township. They had a family of six children, Cynthia, Levi, Mabel, Myrtle, Michael and George.

**Ignatz Grossbach**, who is prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits in section 9, Mazeppa Township, was born in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, Minn., March 25, 1890, son of Joseph and Frances (Kunert) Grossbach. The parents came to this country from Germany in 1856 and for 19 years were residents of Wisconsin. In 1875 they removed to Goodhue County, Minn., where Joseph Grossbach took 160 acres of land and developed a farm on which



he erected the buildings. In 1885 he moved with his family to Mazeppa Township, where he improved another farm, and in 1895 took another farm, of 137 acres, in this township, which he operated until his retirement in 1917. He now resides in the village of Mazeppa. Ignatz Grossbach was educated in the district school and the high school at Zumbrota. He was trained to agriculture and worked for his father until 1918, in which year he started in for himself, buying his present farm of 137 acres in section 9, Mazeppa Township. Here he is carrying on diversified farming and stock raising and making good financial progress. His religious affiliations are with the German Lutheran church. Mr. Grossbach was married November 25, 1918, to Bessie Copp, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Copp of Gillford Township, of which her parents are natives and where they are now operating a farm. She is one of a family of seven children: Ruth, Archie, Walter, Bessie, Margaret, Edwin and Iva. The Copp family are affiliated religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church, and both the Copp and Grossbach families stand well in the community, their various members being intelligent, law-abiding, industrious and progressive.

**John Shierts, Jr.**, who owns and operates a farm of 160 acres in section 35, Glasgow Township, was born in this township June 17, 1884, son of John and Susia Shierts. The father, a native of Germany, was an early settler in Wabasha County, coming to America in the early fifties, and locating on 120 acres in section 26, Glasgow Township. He cleared most of the land on his farm and engaged in raising both crops and stock until his retirement in 1916, when he rented the place to his son-in-law, Al Boden. He and his wife have been the parents of six children: Mary, Frank, Lizzie, Katie, John, Jr., and Clara. John Shierts, Jr., acquired his education in the district school and was reared on the home farm. After working for his father until 1908, he began farming for himself, buying his present farm, which he has since improved by the erection of a new set of buildings, besides fencing. As a general farmer and stock raiser he has met with success. His cattle are of the Shorthorn variety, which he is improving by means of a full blooded sire, and his other stock is also of good grade. Through enterprise and industry he has taken his place among the prosperous citizens of his township and enjoys the respect of all. He is a Catholic in religious faith and a member of the Knights of Columbus. On November 17, 1917, Mr. Shierts was united in marriage with Theresa Plein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Plein of Kellogg. She was one of four children, Celia, Ferdinand, Clarence and Theresa.















Mr. & Mrs. S. W. Hodsdon.















**The HF Group**

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